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The Last Day of The Mahatma

Story of A Story-teller

Equal Progress of All Dts.

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Khajuraho & Konarak

A Day in British M. P.'s Life

The Test: Short Story

A Page Full of Humour

World of Movies And Music

Strunge But True

Muscovite's Diary

Storing Water At Sea

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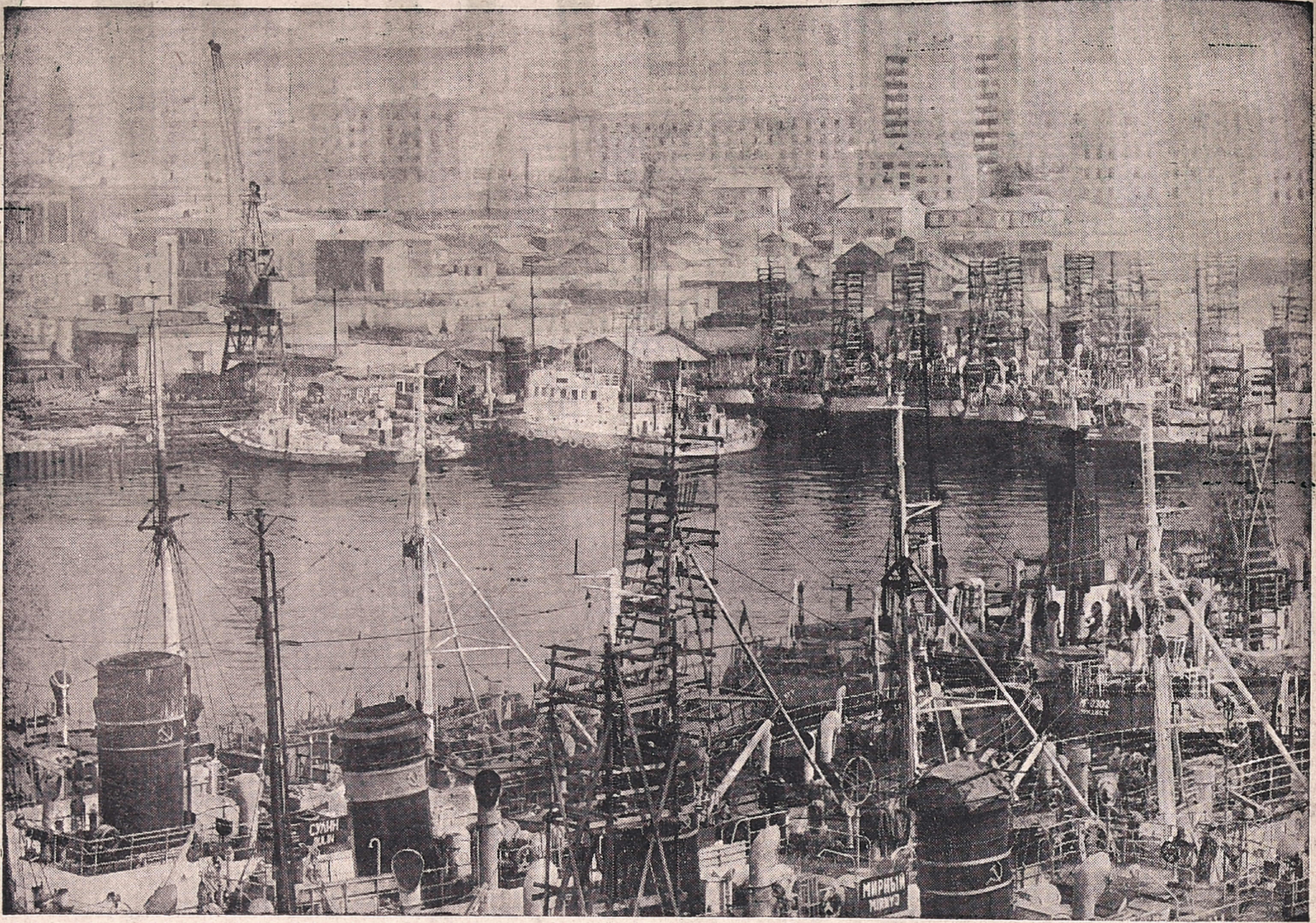
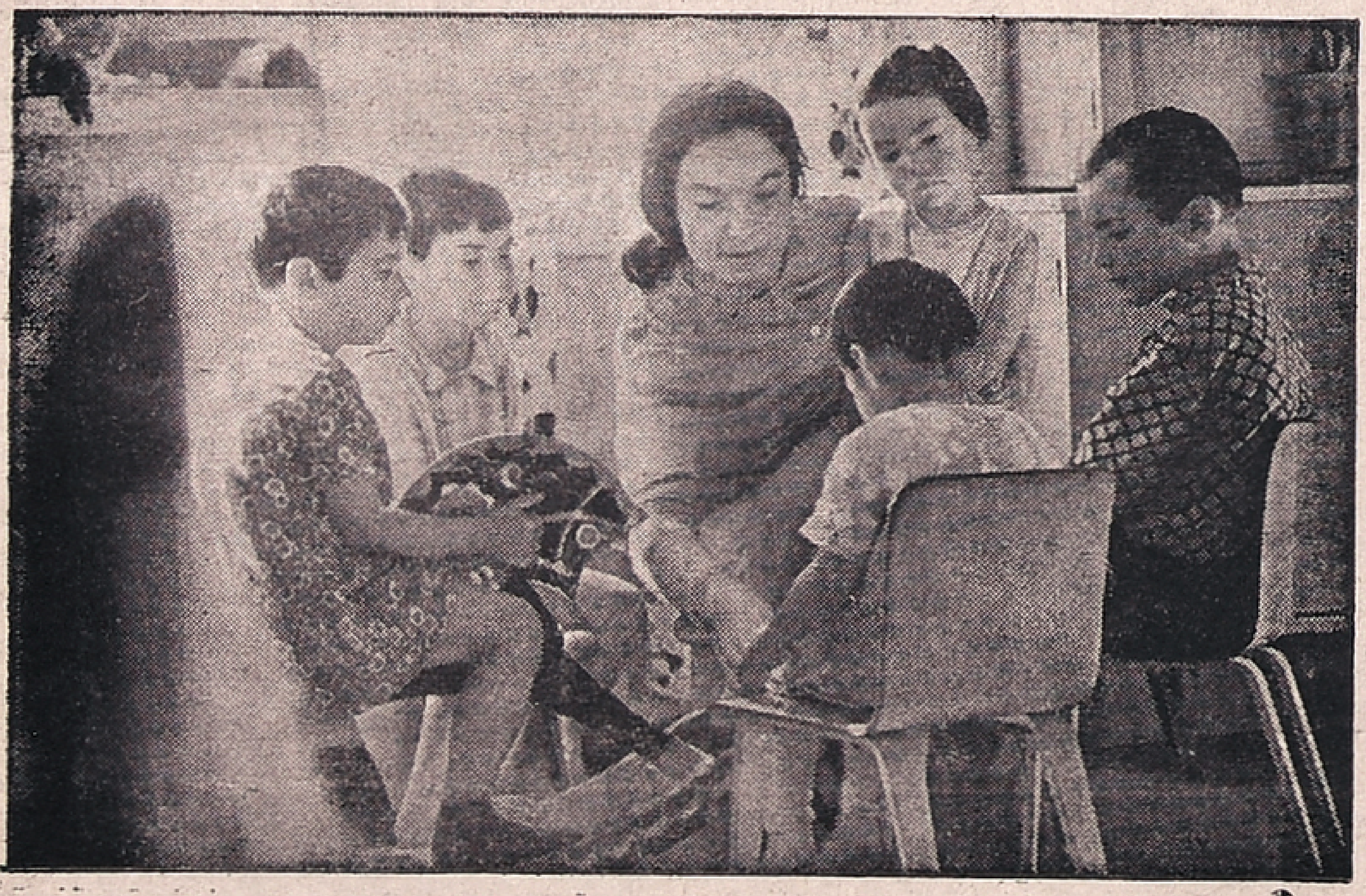


Fishing Trawlers in Murmansk

Great Destiny of Small Nationalities

Ukrainian V. Dimushchak, Nenets M. Taleyev And Russian N. Chapovsky Work Together at The Northern Lovozhkaya Oil-Well.



At The Kindergarten of The Nanets Rossiya Collective Farm

The history of the Evenks living in the northern regions of the USSR, is believed by scientists to have started about 1,500 years ago. For ages their life dragged on, without any change, in the midst of the taiga. Nomadic wanderings, diseases, hunger and exploitation-these were their lot.

The encyclopaedic dictionary of 18 9 said about the Nenets: "Samoyeds dying-off tribe. Population 16,000." The same dictionary, reprinted in 1913, said about them: "Samoyeds dying-off tribe. Population 10,000."

Other minorities in the North and Siberia suffered the same fate. Statistics show that from 1827 to 1917 their numerical strength dwindled by one-third and even by one-half.

When the Soviet Power came, the legacy bequeathed by tsarism was tragic. The wounds inflicted by the Civil War had hardly been healed and the chaos caused by it overcome when the Soviet country, in the early '20s, embarked upon a most important social programme—that of improving the living conditions of the national minorities.

Northern peoples will forever remain grateful to the selfless enthusiasts who started the drive for ending the scourage of illiteracy, unprecedented in scope and scale and in the magnitude of difficulties they faced.

Soviet Government decided on 15th July 1929 to form the Nenets National Area, the first national area in the Federation, This laid the basis for the statehood of national minorities.

Later autonomous republics, regions and national areas (depending on

(Contd. on Last Cover)

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The Last Day of the Mahatma

ON Friday morning, January 30, 1948 Mahatma Gandhi woke up as usual at half past three for the prayer. Then he sat down to work and then took a nap. At eight, he got ready for his message. Passing through Pyarelal's room, he handed him the draft of new constitution for the Congress, which he had partly prepared on the previous night and asked Pyarelal to "thoroughly" revise it. "Fill in any gaps in thought that there might be," he added. "I wrote it under a heavy strain."

Passing out of the room at the end of the massage, he inquired if Pyarelal had finished the revision and further asked him to prepare a note on how to meet the threatened food crisis in Madras in the light of his experience in Noakhali. "The Food Ministry is feeling nervous. But I maintain that a province like Madras, that is blessed by nature with coconut and palm, groundnut and banana in such plenty, not to mention roots and tubers of various kinds, need not starve, if only the people know how to husband their resources in food."

Gandhi then proceeded to take his bath. When he emerged from it, he appeared much refreshed and the strain of the previous night had disappeared. At half past nine, he took his morning meal, after going through his daily exercise in Bengali writing—a practice which he had invariably followed, ever since he embarked on the tour in Noakhali. He was still at his meal, consisting on goat's milk and cooked and raw vegetables, oranges and decoction of ginger and sour lemons, when Pyarelal took to him the draft constitution of the Congress. He went through the alterations point by point and removed an error in calculation that had crept in with regard to the number of the panchayat leaders.

After his midday nap, he saw some visitors. There were the Muslim priests from Delhi, who gave their consent to his going to Wardha. He told them that he would be absent for a short while only, unless God willed it otherwise and something unforeseen happened.

He told to Bishan: "Bring me my important letters. I must reply to them today, for tomorrow I may never be."

A Sindhi deputation called on him. Their sufferings moved him. He referred to the advice offered to him by one refugee to retire to the Himalayas. Chuckling with laughter, he observed that nothing would be better in one sense—he would develop into a double Mahatma and attract larger crowds. But what he wanted was not vainglory or ease, but such comfort and strength, as he could extract out of the prevailing darkness and misery.

At 4.00 p.m., Sardar Patel went to see Gandhi and was with him for an hour. Despite the relaxation that followed his fast, Gandhi knew of the friction between the Sardar and Nehru, and it worried him. He wanted them to hold together. Nehru and Azad were to see him after the evening prayers. At five, he took out his watch and told the Sardar that it was time for his prayers. Gandhi left his room at 5.10 p.m. to wend his way to the prayer meeting on the adjoining lawn. His grand-daughters, Manu and Abha, were by his side. He leaned on them, as he walked. As he passed through the cordoned path through the prayer congregation, he took his hands off the shoulders of the two girls to answer the namaskars of the people.

All of a sudden, someone from the crowd, a Hindu named Nathuram Vinayak Godse, roughly elbowed his way into the cordon from the left. Manu, thinking that he was coming forward to touch Gandhi's feet, remonstrated and tried to stop the intruder by holding his hand. He violently jerked Manu off, causing the spittoon and the mala, which she was carrying, to fall. As Manu bent down to pick up the scattered articles, he planted himself in front of Gandhi at point-blank range and fired three shots in quick succession from a seven-chambered pistol. All the bullets hit Gandhi on and below the chest on the right side. Two bullets passed right through; the third bullet remained embedded in the lung. At the first shot, the foot that was in motion faltered. The hands which had been raised in namaskar slowly came down. He still stood on his legs; then the second shot rang out and he collapsed. He uttered "He Rama". The face turned ashen grey. A crimson spot appeared on the white clothes. The body was carried inside and laid on the mattress, where he used to sit and work. Death was instantaneous.

Jawaharlal Nehru rused to the spot. Overwhelmed with grief, he bent his head down and began to sob like a child.

Sorrow descended everywhere. Flags were lowered all over the world.

"The Light Has Gone Out"

The following is the text of the broadcast made by Shri Jawaharlal Nehru to the nation on the evening of January 30, 1948 :-

"Friends and comrades, the light has gone out of our lives and there is darkness everywhere. I do not know what to tell you and how to say it. Our beloved leader, Bapu as we called him, the Father of the Nation, is no more. Perhaps I am wrong to say that. Nevertheless, we will not see him again as we have seen him for these many years. We will not run to him for advice and seek solace from him, and that is a terrible blow, not to me only, but to millions and millions in this country. And it is a little difficult to soften the blow by any other advice that I or anyone else can give you.

The light has gone out, I said, and yet I was wrong. For the light that shone in this country was no ordinary light. The light that has illumined this country for these many many years will illumine this country for many more years, and a thousand years later, that light will still be seen in this country and the world will see it will give solace to innumerable hearts. For that light represented something more than the immediate present, it represented the living, the eternal truths, reminding us of the right path, drawing us from error, taking this ancient country to freedom.

All this has happened when there was so much more for him to do. We could never think that he was unnecessary or that he had done his task. But now, particularly, when we are faced with so many difficulties, his not being with us is a blow most terrible to bear.

A madman has put an end to his life, for I can only call him mad who did it, and yet there has been enough of poison spread in this country during the past years and months, and this poison has had an effect on people's minds. We must face this poison, we must root out this poison, and we must face all the perils that encompass us, and face them not madly or badly, but rather in the way that our beloved teacher taught us to face them.

The first thing to remember now is that none of us dare misbehave because he is angry. We have to behave like strong and determined people, determined to face all the perils that surround us, determined to carry out the mandate that our great teacher and our great leader has given us, remembering always that if, as I believe, his spirit looks upon us and sees

(Contd on page 12)

Governor K. K. Shah with Mr. Severnev.

Equal Progress By All Dts. In Tamil Nadu

MR. M. M. Severnev, Deputy Chairman, Council of Ministers of Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic and President, Society for Soviet Indian Cultural Relations of the Byelorussia called on the Governor of Tamil Nadu Mr.K.K. Shah last week He was accompanied by Mr. Kharchenko, Consul General of the USSR in Madras.

Mr. Shah received the guests with warm handshakes saying that he was so glad to welcome "our very good friends from the Soviet Union".

A few years back Byelorussian delegation of which Mr. Severnev was the leader had been in Mysore with which State Byelorussia is having sister state relations. Mr. Severnev told the Governor that his Republic was a small one but was doing its best to help the Republic of India with tractors and lorries. Mr. Shah remarked that it was gratifying to note that "all republics and territories of USSR whether big or small have been helping our country and we are sure that you will continue the same in future also".

When Mr. Severnev asked the Governor about the progress and problems of Tamil Nadu, the Governor was pleased to say that "Almost all districts have made concurrently equal progress and industries are fairly dispersed. While Coimbatore, known as Lancashire in cloth production has made headway in Textile industry the adjoining Salem has become popular for steel and Dharmapuri for Chemicals. Tanjore is the granary in the state and in the coastal areas, we have salt based chemical industry."

As to the problems that, in general, India faces, the Governor opined that irrigation has been the problem. "We have been trying to get over this problem by linking up rivers and already the area under irrigation has been raised from 6 per cent to 13 per cent."

The deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers listened sympathetically to the problem and wished the state all success in their tasks and further prosperity.

Do You Know?

* The total bed strength of hospitals in the country, at present, is more than 2.6 lakhs. The target is to raise the bed strength to 2.8 lakhs by 1974.
* At present 96 hospitals, have a bed strength of 500 or more.
* West Bengal, followed by Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh. has the largest number of such hospitals.
* Tamil Nadu, Mysore and Kerala, each has eight such hospitals.
* Seven such hospitals are located in Delhi.

ON THE COVER

Story Of A Story--teller

By THAMBI SRINIVASAN

WHEN I greeted Mr. Jayakanthan on being conferred the Sahitya Akademi Award for 1972 in Tamil, he was neither ove -jubilant. nor falsely modest. Within a few hours after the announcement of the Award he proceeded on his scheduled pilgrimage to Sabari Hills, and had just returned when I met him. He is the youngest Tamil writer (38) to get the award.

He has been a widely read writer since the early sixties, when the popular weekly 'Ananda Vikatan' discovered him out of some little known magazines publishing experimen al writings. He said he became a writer partly by chance and partly by compulsion.

With formal school education limited to el mentary classes in his native coastal town of Cuddalore, he educated himself the hard way. He worked at the Communist Party Office during his boyhood and youth, doing odd jobs and ran errands for a living. He had an opportunity to come in close touch with all the top leaders of the party and to have stimulating discussions with them. An individualist to the core, he could not, however, stay with the party for long. Since he had already started writing in his teens and learnt to write well, he preferred to become a freelance writer. He was recognised by the press and the reading public even when he was only 25.

What is it that makes Jayakanthan so distinguished? He does not spin romantic yarns to entertain, though his writing is entertaining enough. He does not j st condemn society and evildoers wholesale, though his writings do expose them powerfully. He does not take sides blindly with the downtrodden and the weak, though his stories depict the heroism and humanism found among the poor and economically backward classes—with whom he is very familiar. His 200 odd stories portray the changing society with its problems and possible solutions, as obse ved by the Author. He claims to have understood Gandhiji's ideals better through Marx.

His weekly column of views on Life and Matters is as popular reading as his novels and novelettes.

Jayakanthan is a master craftsman in conveying his thought–provoking ideas and observations in artistic form. His canvas is wide and he paints the high and the low in society colourfully with equal skill and objectivity.

Jayakanthan's creative ability is many sided. He produced and directed two films in Tamil based on his own novels. One of them, 'Unnaipol Oruvan' (O e l ke you) was a j dged the best Third All India Film for the President's Award in 1965. He also edited two political dailies for some time beside a literary monthly. and also undertook political le ture tours throughout the state during the last two general elections. He says he has n w severed all connections with active politics. He now writes a series in Thuglak' ent tled 'The political experiences of a literary man.'

LIKES PEOPLE

Jayakanthan likes people. He loves to observe them closely and fancies his solutions on their problems obviours and imaginary. 'I have lived through every character in my stories, and every situation' says this author.

'Sila Nerangalil Sila Manithargal' (Moods and Moments)' the novel which has won him the Award was first serialised in Dinamani Kadir. This is very much different from the average serials found in Tamil weeklies. There is no suspense at the end of every chapter, there is no villain (in fact Jayakanthan proudly claims that he has not portrayed a single bad character who is all ba), and there is no predestained 'formula'. This was a plain narration of the vicissitudes in the life of a girl, victimised by a playboy and was branded by her own family, her attempts to make her life meaningful—and her ultimate acceptance of life without her man when she finds it could not be with him.

The story behind this story is equally powerful. Jayakanthan had first published a short story entitled 'Agnipravesam' in Ananda Vikatan wherein the tainted g rl of a middle class family is simply forgiven by an understanding mother. But the 'finis' was not acceptable to the orthodox readers and critics. The mother's reaction raised many eyebrows.

Jayakanthan could convince them only by writing another story. This novel was a sequal to show what would happen to the same girl, if treated with orthodox moral indignation.

'Writing is my life, not just a profession', says Jayakanthan, who is given full freedom by his publishers and journals—but he uses his fseedom with a great sense of responsibility: 'I do not write to please people. I write to give them what they need.'

City Train Timings

With effect from Nov. 1

MADRAS CENTRAL

	Dep.	Arr.
Howrah Janata	8-40	19-15
Tatanagar Exp.	12-40	14-10
Howrah Mail	20-55	5-05
Circars Exp.	22-00	6-40
New Delhi Exp.	8-25	17-55
Hyderabad Exp.	13-35	10-15
Delhi Janata	15-10	15-55
New Delhi-Air-conditioned/Grand Trunk Express*	19-45	10-55
Dadar Express	10-00	17-15
Bombay Janata	13-40	14-00
Bombay Mail	21-50	5-15
Tirupati Exp.	7-00	21-40
Brindavan Exp.	8-10	19-05
Bangalore Exp.	12-45	15-20
Bangalore Mail	21-15	5-40
West Coast Exp.	12-25	14-45
Kerala Express	16-25	9-35
Mangalore Mail	20-20	7-00
Nilagiri Exp.	20-00	7-20
Cochin Mail	19-20	6-10
Gudur Pass.	8-45	22-50
Gudur Pass. (via Arkonam)	—	21-45
Vijayawada Pass.	15-20	12-40
Vijayawada Parcel Passenger	23-45	4-15
Raichur Pass.	9-25	20-10
Tirupati Pass.	17-00	9-45
Bangalore Pass.	6-05	21-00
Jolarpettai Pass.	11-20	14-20
Arkonam Pass.	18-10	—
Coimbatore Parcel Passenger	21-25	6-10

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MADRAS EGMORE (MAIN LINE)

Rock Fort Express	9-10	17-10
VirudunagarJanata	13-40	7-45
Rameswaram Exp.	19-30	8-05
Tiruchi Pass	6-45	12-05
Villupuram Pass.	15-55	12-05
Trivandrum Pass.	21-30	5-20
Madurai Parcel Passenger	22-25	4-50
Shencottah Pass,	—	21-10
(CHORD LINE)		
Trivandrum Exp.	8-10	18 10
Tirunelveli Exp.	18-15	8-35
Trivandrum Mail	20-30	7-15
Pandyan Exp.	20-10	6-40
Tuticorin Express	21-45	5-40
Rameswaram Passenger	11-00	16-25
MADRAS BEACH		
Chingleput Pass.	17-07	10-40
Kancheepuram Passenger	17-33	9-50
Kancheepuram Passenger *	18-12	9-18

*Will run on all days except on Sundays.

Sunday service will be observed only on Madras Beach-Tambaram Electrified suburban section.

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V. V. S. Aiyar-43

AIYAR'S STATEMENT

By R. A. PADMANABHAN

Mr. V. V. S. Aiyar made the following statement in the Court in the Sedition case:

I am a humble fellow-worker to the thousands of men who are today endeavouring to bring about the spiritual regeneration of the ancient land of India. As I believe that true and perfect spiritual awakening is impossible for any nation so long as it does not possess Swarajya, I have been working in the political field also.

As every other kind of agitation has failed to obtain Swarajya for my country, I have, in accordance with the mandate of the Indian National Congress, taken up the programme of non-violent non-co-operation with the Government believing that this is the only programme that is capable of making my sacred Motherland queen in her own house, leaving to England at the same time the choice of preserving unbroken the historical relations between the two countries.

Hence in spite of the extreme fair mindedness of the Magistrate who presides over this Court, I do not desire to take part in the proceedings taken against me except to state truly my connection with the matters under enquiry which the court can verify if it pleases.

On or about the 6th September 1920, the first and fourth accused purchased "Desabhaktan" under the British India Press from one Mr. M. S. Kamath. I was then Editor of "Desabhaktan". The first and the fourth accused did not enter into any Contract with me as Editor, but I continued as usual to write for the paper as before.

The "Desabhaktan" stopped publication about the 9th February, 1921, and the 1st and 4th accused, the Co-Proprietors of the paper, I understand, and (it appears also from one of the exhibits forming part of the record) dispensed with my services about the middle of February 1921 and applied to the Chief Presidency Magistrate through the 4th accused for the registration of the Press, etc.

But I was never told or informed of this transaction and when the paper began to appear, I did the editorial work as ever before absolutely unconscious of the matters mentioned in para 5.

Upto the end of June, I had never been informed or consulted about any editorial board by the other accused as mentioned in the letter to the Chief Presidency Magistrate, forming also an exhibit in this case.

The moment I came to know of it I asked the 1st accused and 4th accused what it meant and then I received an assurance from the 1st accused that the contemplated editorial board had not come into operation and that he would move for its abolition at the next meeting of the Directors of Bharatha Printing and Publishing Company to which the rights of the 1st and 4th accused were intended to be transferred.

Ever since the first and fourth accused took the "Desabhaktan", I have been pressing them to formally appoint me as the editor in case my services were required by them; but they had been postponing to do so. At length about the beginning of July 1921, I wrote out the conditions under which alone I would take up the editorial responsibilities of "Desabhaktan" and gave the draft to the 1st accused. The 1st accused struck off and corrected certain of the terms which I considered vital, but I wrote to him that the portions struck off must be re-instated and he sent the same to the 4th accused for reference to their legal adviser.

Differences, however arose between the 1st accused and 4th accused and my attempt to settle them amicably was mistaken by the 1st accused and he gave me a notice on or about the 15th July 1921 in which notice he did not describe me as editor.

On that day it is (namely 15th July 1921) that the other Proprietor, 4th accused, gave me an order of appointment as editor of "Desabhaktan" which is the first and last order of appointment given to me by the 1st and 4th accused during the proprietorship.

Seeing, however, the difficulties that had been growing between the 1st and 4th accused, I had been desiring to sever my connection with "Desabhaktan" and on the very next day 16th July 1921 I gave notice of the same to the 1st accused who was the legal manager of the partnership at the time.

In accordance with that notice, I severed my connection with the "Desabhaktan" on the 16th August 1921 and announced the same in the "Desabhaktan" of the same date.

As regards the article of the subject matter in this case, I declare that I never wrote the article. In pursuance of an invitation to preside at the anniversary of a reading room in Vyakundam Siruvayal in Ramnad District, about 60 miles by motor South of Trichinopoly, I left Madras on the 1st of May 1921, I presided over the anniversary on the 2nd and 3rd May, lectured at Karaikudi on the 4th and 5th of May and returned to Madras on the 9th May. Between the 1st and 9th May, I wrote nothing for the "Desabhaktan" nor had I anything published between the same dates.

I understand that the original of the leading article of the 6th May is with Mr. M. K. Srinivasan residing at 307, Linghi Chetty Street, to whom I understand it was entrusted soon after the arrest of the accused 1, 2 and 4, and he may be sent for if the Government desires to avoid a miscarriage of justice.

I have since read the article in question and find that it does not contain anything which can bring the writer thereof under Section 124-A I.P.C. or any other Section. I may remark in passing that the translation is incorrect in several places of which one is the translation of "vamsam" into "race" and not as a "family".

Under these circumstances, I am not guilty of the charge brought against me in this case.

If after perusing the above, the Court thinks I am guilty, I am ready chearfully to undergo any imprisonment that it may give me.

AIYAR CHARGED

The Magistrate immediately read out a charge against the 2nd accused "that you, V. V. Subramania Aiyar, being one of the Joint Editors of the 'newspaper' called 'Desabhaktan', on or about the 6th May 1921, published an editorial under the heading 'Repression', an English translation of which has been set out in the complaint, thereby bringing hatred and contempt against the Government and attempted to incite disaffection towards the Government established by law in British India and thereby committed an offence punishable under Section 124-A within the cognisance of this Court."

The accused pleaded "not guilty" to the charge; and further said he did not wish to re-cross-examine the Prosecution witnesses or to let in any defence evidence.

The Magistrate:—Mr. Menon' the only point to consider is that in the statement which the 2nd accused has made, he says he is not the writer of the article in question and that the original of the same is with Mr. M. K. Srinivasan. I want to know whether this point will have any bearing in the case—I mean in respect of the sentence.

Mr. Menon replied that he would take it that the 2nd accused was not the writer of the article, but it would not absolve him from any responsibility in that he was one of the joint editors.

Mr. Menon argued the case and said that the publication in question was of a highly seditious character likely to inflame the minds of the readers of the paper, who were mostly uneducated. He emphasized on particular sentences and said they

(Contd. on page 10)

FUN AND LAUGHTER

THE SECRET

Out of curiosity a farmer had grown a crop of flax and had had a table cloth made of the linen Some. time later he remarked to a visitor at dinner:

"I grew this table cloth myself."

"Did you really?" she exclaimed "How did you ever manage it?"

It was plain she had no idea of how table clothes came into being, so the farmer lowered his voice mysteriously as he replied; "If you promise not to give the secret away, I'll tell you."

The guest promised.

"Well," proceeded the farmer "I planted a napkin!"

* * *

FOR HIS SON

A boy fresh from school was given an appointment by a business man, with a view to entering into his employment.

After testing his knowledge in various directions the interviewer rapped out: "The first essential in business is a large fund of general knowledge. Tell me, my boy, for what was Louis XIV chiefly responsible?"

Without a second's hesitation the boy answered: "Louis XV, sir."

* * *

BLUNT

A man went into a barber's shop. Said he to the barber, in his gravest manner, "Have you the razor you shaved me with the day before yesterday?"

"Oh, yes, sir," replied the barber, with much exuberance and delight at the favourable appreciation and the tender interest evinced in his instrument. "Here it is, sir."

"Ah, well," said the visitor, after a little hesitation, "then—yes—then I'll take chloroform, please!"

* * *

"You're not looking well, my dear!"

"No. The wretched instructor at the cookery school made me eat the pie I made."

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THE IDEA!

An intimation to slow-paying customers given by a country shopkeeper:

"All persons indebted to our shop are to call and settle. All indebted to our shop and not knowing it are requested to call and find out. Those knowing themselves indebted and not wishing to call are requsted to remain in one place long enough for us to catch them."

* * *

A NATURAL CONCLUSION

With a modest tap on the door, the new office-boy entered the manager's room.

"Please, sir," he said nervously, "I think you're wanted on the telephone."

"You think, boy!" snapped the manager. "What's the good of thinking?"

"Well, sir, some one at the other end said, 'Is that you, you old idiot?' "

This Way Out

The house wife was showing her new maid through the upstairs rooms. Finally, they came to a staircase leading down to the garden.

"Now, Mary," said the housewife, stepping on to the landing, "when you wish to pass down to the garden, go down this way."

At that moment she slipped, and with a great bumping noise she was precipitated to the bottom.

"Good gracious, mum!" gasped the maid starting down from above. "Are ye hurt?"

"No; it's nothing," came the reply, as the dishevelled mistress rose to her feet.

"Then ye've got down it foine, mum!" declared the girl. "But if that's the way I've got to go down, the job's too strenuous for me!"

NOT STRONG ENOUGH

After a long spell of dry weather the old negro preacher called his flock together to pray for rain. Climbing into his pulpit, he eyed them sadly.

"De faith of some of you breddren is very weak," he said at last. "Here we are gathered together to ask de good Lord to send us rain and not one of you has brought an umbrella."

* * *

FAITHFUL

"We want you to look upon all your comrades in the regiment as your brothers," said the Commanding officer, "and to regard me as your father—father of the regiment. Do you understand?"

"Yes, dad," replied the recruit.

ALL ACCORDING

It was Tommy's first experience of a public shelter and Mrs. Jones, a friend of his mother, was doing her best to entertain the small boy.

In one of those sudden silences which happen even in shelters, Tommy's mother was chagrined to hear a piping little voice explain:

"Well, I don't know, Mr. Jones, because I've never been in a shelter before. But I'm nearly three in the train, four on the bus, and five at school."

* * *

BACK TO EARTH

"We had a wonderful trip. We saw snow-crested summits leaping towards the cerulean heavens,! we saw foaming torrents raging through the bottoms of shadowy canyons; we looked down from beetling crags into depths of limpid lakes; we traversed sylvan glades shot with flashes of golden sunlight; we—"

"How many miles to the gallon did you get?"

* * *

HERE, TOO

The wife of an actor was talking about her husband to a friend.

"Oh yes," she said "my huspand is one of the greatest Shakespearean actors that ever lived. He received the V.C. for playing Hamlet in London two years ago."

But the Victoria Cross is only awarded for outstanding bravery.

"Well, you should have seen his Hamlet."

* * *

PASSED AS FIT

For the first time the popular local boxing referee turned up at a match in a dinner jacket. Naturally, he felt rather proud of it.

When the first bout was due, he stalked grandly into the ring, and with arms outstretched, turned slowly round to demand silence.

The effect was spoiled by a voice from the cheap seats, which said:

"It fits all right, Bert. What about buying it?"

* * *

MODESTY

"The best thing for you," said the doctor "is to give up drinking and smoking, go to bed early every night, and get up early in the morning."

"Doctor," said the patient, earnestly, "I don't feel I deserve the best. What's the second best?"

* * *

"What's your son taking in college?"

"All I've got."

One For Dad

Fred, aged nine, had just become a Boy Scout, and it was obvious that the taking of the oath had made a deep impression on him. After relating to his parents all he had been through, he added:

"And so there'll be no need to lock up the lemon cheese an' ginger biscuits now."

His father, seeing what an impression had been made, thought this a suitable moment to hint that now, being a Boy Scout and having the company of other boys, Fred would try to be a man and not keep wanting to trail after his mother, everywhere she went.

The hint was countered wirh a surprised stare.

"Well," said Fred, "if I'm too old to go about with mother—what about you?"

DIDN'T SAY IT?

An old woman taught to play bridge. One evening, while arranging her cards, she dropyed one, and picking it up, observed: "No one saw that King, did they?"

"Hush, Granny," said her partner, "you shouldn't mention which card it was."

"It's all right, my dear! I didn't say it was the king of diamonds!"

* * *

RICH ENOUGH

"Yes," said the boastful young man, "my family can trace its ancestry back to William the Conquerer."

"I suppose," remarked his friend, "you'll be telling us that your ancestors were in the ark with Noah."

"Certainly not," said the other. "My people had a boat of their own."

x x x

ACCOUNTS FOR IT

The head of the firm was frowning over a letter. Calling for his chief clerk, he said: "That typist—you certainly didn't engage her on account of her grammar."

"Grammar?" said the other. "When you were emphasizing importance of grammar—well, I thought you said 'glamour'!"

* * *

HIS SHAME

Magistrate: "And have you anything to say?"

"Only this, your lordship, I don't agree with being convicted by a man who kept his'ed under the bedclothes all the time. It ain't fair!"

* * *

"What's the difference between ammonia and pneumonia?"

"One comes in bottles and the other in chests."

Khajuraho And Konark-A Comperative Study

By KANWAR LAL

An authority on Khajuraho and Konark sculptures, the author's publications include the "Immortal Khajuraho", "The cult of Desire" and "Miracle of Konark."

COMPRESSING information even abount a single aspect of temples of these two world-famous places, Khajuraho (in Madhya Pradesh) and Konark (in Orissa), with the extremely limited scope of this article, is, to put it most mildly, extremely unjust to the theme. However, let us not waste words and move straight on the quintessence of first what the people there to see and then to the briefest possible description of what they actually see, and finally, to an explanation and understanding of why these temple walls carry ' things humanity hides away."

"I sit in the shade of the
Temple Walls...
Above, half seen, in the
lofty gloom,
Strange works of a long-
dead people loom,
Obscene and savage and
half-effaced—
An elephant hunt, a
musician's feast—
And curious matings of
man and beast.
What did they mean to
the men who are long
since dust?
These rioting, twisted
figures of love and lust.
Strange wierd things that
no man may say,
Things Humanity hides
away" "

At Khajuraho, there are about twenty monuments, broken and whole, the earliest being the *Chaunsath Yogini* which is dated to the 8th 9th century. The other temples were constructed by the Chandela dynasty during a hundred and fifty years, between roughly 950 A.D. to 1100 A.D. These temples belong to the Nagara style and are akin to many another fane built during the medieval phase in North India. True they have a few distinctive features of their own, so that a Khajuraho temple can be easily distinguished from any other. To take one such feature, the Chandela artists developed the architectural-cum sculptural element known as the *Uru-Shikharas* Heaping turrets upon turrets on the tower they provide a semblance of additional height to structures which are actually not very tall. Again, these Chandel temples belong, stylistically, to the phase when architecture is sculpture and *vice versa*. Thanks to the exquisite intermingling of these two arts, the beholder does not find any artificial superimposition of sculpture. The monuments are carved *all over*, as the phrase goes; yet there is no sense of ornament having been added for its own sake. Indeed, the sculpture has a seemingly valid scheme related to Evolution. Beginning with the vegetal world, the carving moves up to the world of animals, and then on to that of human beings, rising finally to the plane of gods and goddesses. The *shikhara*, which symbolises the aspiration of the human soul – *atma*—to merge into the Supreme Soul, *Parmatma*, of the self in the self, has no sculptural motifs. The sculptural element within the temple is treated similarly. The interior is decorated but the *cella*, where the idol is placed, is bare.

"EROTIC SCULPTURE"

What the average visitor to Khajuraho is interested in seeing is erotic sculpture. Yet several temples have no erotic sculpture, and even those which display that carry only a certain quantity of it-with a lot of absolutely exquisite, other, non-erotic sculpture. Nevertheless, it is *mithunas*,—couples-as they are called, the sexual postures, which constitute, for the majority of the visitors, their chief interest. About half a dozen temples-Kandariya Mahadeva, Bakshmana, Devi Jagadambi Chitragupta Vishwantha, Duladeo, Parshwanatha contain such ornamentation. The *Mithuna* sculptures obtain in respect of the gods and goddesses also, but in their case the limit of the respectable embrace is never crossed. The to called loose loves, the acts of vulgar copulation, obtain only in the world of human beings and animals. The variety here is simply amazing and not unoften the carving covers what seems to be the lowest possible plane of sexual activity, depicting sodomy, cunnilingus, fellatio, bestiality, zoophilia and other aberrations. Group orgies are also in evidence, and one intriguing variation of these is the 'yogic' posture where a man stands on his head 'satisfying three women at the same time.

What has been said about the erotic sculpture at Khajuraho applies also to the Sun Temple at Konark—literally corner of the Sun'—on the sea-shore of Orissa, the socalled Black Pagoda-the name of the sailors, who passed by during the medieval ages, gave it to mark its contrast with the White Pagoda at Puri. The Sun Temple is a ruin, perhaps the most majestic ruin in all India. Some say that it was never completed, because the plan was too ambitious to be carried out and the weight of the super structure too heavy for the sub strcuture to support. Others believe that it was constructed to the topmost inch but because of the depraved and vulgr earving that it carried, it soon became a ruin The temple was built by Narasinghdeva I, of the Eastern Ganga dynasty, around A.D. 1250, to celebrate his victory against the Muslim, and marks the culmination of centuries of temple building in Orissa. Mythological accounts make it the work of Krishna's son, Samb, who had been cursed into leprosy by his father for looking lecherously at the inmate of Krishna's harem—at women who were Samb's mothers. Samb recovered from his leprosy through incessant worship of the Sun-god and the temple was built as an offering to this deity. According to one view, the erotic carvings here reflect harem scenes with which Samb's story is asso iated. Another explanation that the sculptures depict all activity upon earth which the Sun looks upon. Since nothing is hidden from his eye, and since sexual activity is but a part of human activity, why should this omitted? In fact, to exclude it would be to make in conspicuous through its absence. The temple was planned in the shape of a chariot, the Sun's chariot, twenty-four wheels-twelve on each side-and seven horses, and it among the most magnificent of India's monuments, both in conception and execution. The sculptures are superb and, though here we are concerned with the erotic element, the celebrated wheel of the elephant and the horse at Konark, or, again, the Amazon-like females, the drummer and the flute player, adorning the top friezes, and the Sun god-to mention but a few of the countless lovely non-erotic sculptures are most impressively carved. The richly diversified erotic work matches, in all respects, what obtains at Khajuraho, And it is far more virile in presentation. Is this artistic exaggeration or factual representation? Opinion varies.

To compare the erotic sculpture of the two places is not easy. Nor is the difference merely that of degree. In a way it is like choosing between two beautiful sisters, each having her own charm, style, and personality. Yet, both are attractiv–and at both sites the erotic sculpture is, as art, as fine as the rest of the carving.

Even so most critics hold that what Konark offers in respect of all sculpture, including the erotic, is classical. At Khajuraho, the style is *decadent*. There is elegance enough, but somehow there is a sense of lesser power, and for all its soft and subtle moulding a loosening of the grip over the chisel. There is great mobility and the figures are smoother, less 'abnormal', but in the final analysis, the sculpture at Kha-

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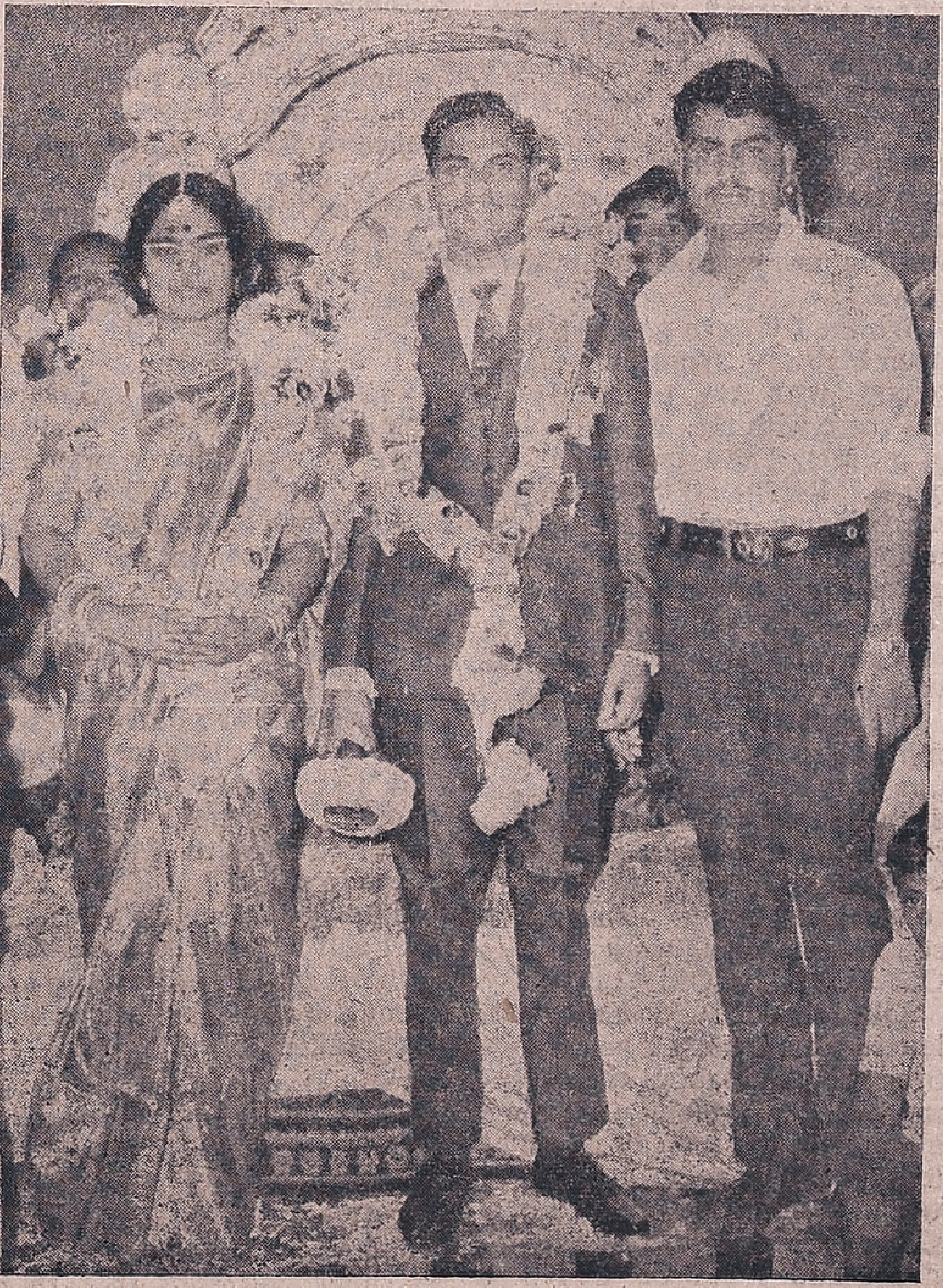

The marriage of Mr. Senguttuvan, B. E., (son of Mr. R Ramasubramanyam, Chairman, Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission) with Dr. Mangayarkarasi, M.B.B.S., (daughter of Mr. Narayanaswami) was celebrated recently at Madurai.

THUS SPAKE THE MAHATMA

Immediately the spirit of exploitation is gone, armaments will be felt as a positive unbearable burden. Real disarmament cannot come unless the nations of the world cease to exploit one another.

ASOKA SCENTED BETEL NUT POWDER

Free India

SUNDAY Feb. 4, 1973.

VIETNAM

The world's worst senseless war has ended. Peace has come to Vietnam.

The imperialist ambitions of a democratic power have been shattered.

The price paid in men and money is incalculable. The U.S. alone has wasted 137 billion dollars and lost 45 939 precious lives.

The havoc wrought in Vietnam is impossible to describe.

Was any one benefited by this war? Yes. The industrialists of the U. S. who were building up a false prosperity with military orders.

But the bad effects of this mad venture has unsettled the social life of America. They have wrecked the moral strength of the youth. It may not be too wrong to say that the Hippy movement was strengthened by these disillusioned American youths.

The national spirit of a tiny nation has stood up to the might of a nuclear power.

This has real hope for similar small nations on earth.

POWER CUT

Power shortage has not come suddenly.

Any planning must have taken into consideration the present requirements and future needs. But our planners have chosen to plan in a peculiar way.

But how is it fair to enforce a 40 percent cut in power supply and also add a 15 percent surcharge?

A Day In A British MP's Life

By RUSSELL JOHNSTON
Member of Parliament for Inverness, Scotland

Russell Johnston has been Liberal Member of Parliament for Inverness, Scotland, since 1964. He is Liberal Parliamentary Spokesman on Foreign Affairs and Chairman of the Scottish Liberal Party.

MOST days in the life of a British Member of Parliament (MP) are long and hectic, often frustrating, sometimes rewarding, but they are never dull.

My constituency, Inverness, consists of some 4,000 square miles (12,700 km) of the Scottish Highlands, with nine islands; several ranges of mountains and many lochs (lakes) including the home of the legendary Loch Ness monster! The electorate is about 55,000, with just under half in the main town of Inverness and the rest living in smaller towns or scattered villages often quite a distance apart.

I have chosen a Wednesday during this parliamentary session as a typical example of a day's work.

POSTBAG PROBLEMS

In the morning I dictate to my secretary in a tiny room near the Houses of Parliament in London.

Many of the problems in my postbag are about communications. There may be a petition because an important, but unfortunately uneconomic, railway line is threatened with closure. I may have another letter about a disabled child who cannot get to school because there is no proper road for a car to get near enough to his house. A ferry is desperately needed prevent an island community gradually wasting away from depopulation.

We are trying to get a better main highway from Edinburgh to cope with the traffic which has come with the development of industry and tourism in the north. Recent oil discoveries are bringing many new people to the the area and quiet villages are quickly becoming small towns. Still more housing is needed and land for building is very hard to buy.

We must try to protect farming and forestry interests and our very beautiful countryside as industry increases, but more jobs are always wanted to prevent our younger people having to go to the bigger towns in the south in search of work.

ON ROYAL COMMISSION

Like other MPs I may have letters from local authorities all over Scotland about the sweeping changes which will come about with the reorganisation of local government in Britain. I was a member of the Royal Commission which heard evidence and produced a report that formed the basis of the Government's proposals.

I may also be on the Committee of the House of Commons which will debate these changes and there will be more representations from local councils anxious to make amendments to parts of the Bill before it becomes law.

Some things are dealt with on the phone or by letters to Ministers or local authorities. Particular Scottish matters may be raised in the Scottish Grand Committee or on the floor of the House itself. I may have to go and see the chairman of the Hydro-Electric Board in Edinburgh or the telephone manager in Glasgow about some cases.

MEETINGS AND FUNCTIONS

I will have to plan my programme to fit these visits in which parliamentary business and some time will have to be found to go to political meetings and social functions in my constituency and other parts of the country. I always have to allow quite a lot of time just to get from place, whether it is by air, rail or car.

Some people may telephone with complaints or come to see me at the House of Commons. On the Wednesday after writing this article I am having lunch with representatives of the Educational Institute of Scotland, who come down to London once a year to discuss teachers' pay and conditions. Later on a deputation from the Scottish Trades Union Congress will be lobbying MPs as part of its campaign to increase retirement pensions.

At 2.30 p m I must be in the Commons chamber for Scottish questions when there will be a chance to ask the Minister about the case of an individual constituent or the Government's policy on a broader issue affecting, say, fishermen in the Highlands or Scotland as a whole.

There may also be a Government statement and if it is on a Foreign Affairs matter I will give the Liberal reaction.

DISCUSSION ON PLANS

The debate on the subject for the day continues until 10 p m when there will probably be a vote, but in the meantime I have to attend the weekly Liberal Parliamentary Party meeting to discuss our plans for the next week's business. During the evening I may have more visitors or be able to work on a speech in the Library. (If I want to make a speech in the Chamber I will have been sitting there for most of the afternoon and evening in the hopes of catching the Speaker's eye!)

I will also phone my wife at home in Inverness, 600 milles (965 km) away. That's the greatest drawback about being an MP—flying to London on Mondays and back to Inverness on Thursdays means that there is hardly any time to watch our baby son grow up. With any luck, my day will end at about 11 pm, but than will depend on whether there is on all night sitting of the House!

STRANGE BUT TRUE

Object Lesson

In the morning of December 11 troops from Triangula invaded the high school at North Ogden, Utah, U.S.A Armed soldiers were posted at all doors and pupils violating occupation regulations were court-martialled and sentenced to hard labour—to clean up classrooms and other school premises. The occupation lasted three days, and while Triangula is an imaginary state, the soldiers were real. The occupation idea belonged to the headmaster, and the whole thing was done for ideological purposes: to show children what life would be like under a "totalitarian regime" and to teach them to "appreciate freedom."

Super-Leap Year

Last year was a leap year and February had twenty-nine days. In the 1973 calendar printed for the Canadian postal authorities in several hundred thousand copies, February has 31 days. The mistake was discovered on December 17, when postmen were about to deliver the calendars. The whole batch was thrown out and the owner of the Montreal printing shop which had put the calendar out without the final O.K., of the postal authorities will now have to reprint it at his own expense.

Spooks In West Point

West Point is in the grip of a panic that has stricken everyone—from veteran instructors decorated for valour to the greenest of the cadets. The guilty party is a ghost. TIME magazine reports in all seriousness that many cadets actually saw the ghost dressed in the uniform of a soldier of President Jackson's period and carrying a musket, outside Room 4714. Captain Keith Bakken decided to put an end to the panic—but after a vigil outside the room he corroborated the cadets' tale. Bakken said the place where the ghost disappeared was icy cold and issued orders that no one should enter Room 4714 until Easter 1974.

S-s-s-s-s-s-stars

Some time ago Universal studios advertised in the California newspapers for snakes for the "SSSSSSSS" film. The ad said that they must be non-venomous, intelligent and safe for actors and actresses to work with. Some 150 domesticated snakes were brought to the casting office in reply to this ad. Among the applicants was a snake with two heads which quarrelled while eating, an indigo snake recommended by its owner as "very affectionate", and a twelve-centimetre snake that winds itself around its owner's wrist. The biggest applicant was a Colombian boa. The results of the tests are not yet known.

A Short Story:

THE TEST

By LUDMILA MOSKVINA

Tick-tock ... Tick-tock ... The old clock beat out the measure of time. Then the small bird thrust out its head, button eyes shining, and cuckooed.

That cuckoo clock again! Outside the window Moscow was pale with the first light. It was still early. An important day, this—defending her thesis!—she ought to have had a really good sleep, but instead she had to dream of that cuckoo. The old clock had stayed behind in the house by Nikitsky Gates. She had left it there a month ago, and gone back to her own little room still called the nursery. Again she said good-night to the old elm tree tapping against the window, as she had when she was a little girl. Only in those days there had been no cuckoo opening its little door in her dreams and calling: Cuckoo! Cuckoo!

The curtain rings clinked. The wind blew in and fluttered the hair on her forehead. Ah, now the alarm clock was really ringing—no dream, this. She brought her hand down on the button to stop it, and began to dress

Ah! how often people call their husbands or wives "my other half." Perhaps it was like that once, but now each one was a single unit, like herself and her husband. Could you ever say that together they made a unit? No, they were two units. From the first day they had known one another, there had been arguments without end. In fact, it was amazing that they should have had such a liking for each other. He had made fun of her rather old-fashioned profession of botany, or criticized the film she liked and it was enough for her to want to go to the theatre or to friends for him to be in a bad mood for work and wave goodbye without even raising his head. She began to feel that his cybernetics meant more to him than anything else in the world—more than her; he was gradually turning into a kind of computer himself. In fact she called him just that—at first jokingly, then in grim earnest.

She felt she had to get her thoughts together, to concentrate for the day she defended her thesis—and in addition, she wanted to test him. Any parting is like a wind on fire, a weak flame goes out, a strong one burns up.

"You know, I think I'll go and stay with Mum until it's time to defend my thesis."

She expected him to take offence, to argue, but he looked vague and shrugged.

"Do as you like."

Strangely, she was hurt because he hadn't argued.

In the laboratory where she was trying out the mineral feeding of roses, she whispered into petals, "So I can do as I like, can I? How do you like that!"

The roses listened silently, comforting her with their perfume, she felt they were kind and sympathetic, not at all the cold proud beauties some poets pictured.

It would soon be time to hand in the thesis, so she sat down to write, to draw up schemes of laboratory experiments. Then she found she had to go to the experimental section at Sochi, that southern town of white buildings, drowning in green, caressed by the sun and the sea breezes. There, she was hardly ever out of the laboratory; only when she felt too tired to do any more did she go out to stroll in the dendrarium. There, in the old museum section, she had her friends—the rare laurel and the coquito palm. But the poisonous oleander and cryptomeria were enemies,

She went along the path into the thicket. There was the Liriodendron—the musical tree; it stood there silently, but actually its timber reacted to every sound, there was no better resonator than the Liriodendron. By the pond with its floating green leaves of Victoria regia she remembered how as a student she had once waited to see the white buds rise to the surface with the rising sun, open, flush pink, then turn lilac and at night sink back into the water to change from flowers into seeds.

Many plants like bamboo and Agave die after floweriug. Then, too, there are those which cannot endure loneliness. Cut down that Himalayan cedar growing beside a Sequoia and the latter will die...Now then, no blue moods. The Himalayan cedar is fine and the Sequoia isn't threatened with a s d end. The best cure for melancholy is hard work and plenty of it. It's easier in Moscow, though—there are publications to read, and discussion of your thesis at the chair and talks with your opponents.

And now, today—the scientific council. The Defence. And then, of course, a banquet—as always. A small cosy cafe had already been engaged, with the romantic name Blue Bird. There had been an announcement, saying that so-and-so would be defending her thesis on Research into the Mineral Feeding of Roses before the scientific council of the Forestry and Urb n Planning Faculty in auditorium 319. Others in her course had telephoned and promised to come. In her heart she was hoping that a certain "computer" would learn from somebody about the day and hour of the Defence.

All the time she was speaking and listening to the opponents' speeches, her eyes searched the hall.

The Blue Bird hid its crest in an old, quiet little street. Old friends clustered together with "do you remember?" Friends from the past People emerge and float along the stream of life beside you. Then time does its work and you are in a different layer, a different era. Many things draw you to old friends. You began together, you argued, shared troubles, shared successes. You learned to know one another, fell in love—so deeply that life apart was unthinkable, and to become disappointed.

By the orchestra those who as yet only dreamed of the future were dancing—her students, lanky lads and pretty girls.

"How many years is it—? Congratulations!"

Glasses of foaming champagne "Do you remember—?"

Of course. She remembered everything. But the lanky lads and pretty girls dragged their older colleagues out from the table to dance with them, to the mad music. Then they came back—not all the "do you remembers" had come together yet.

No, you can't return to the past—the waves of time lie too deeply over your head. The blue bird! Even as a child you knew it was not to be found in the past. Only in the future.

The street was empty. Her footsteps rang sharply on the asphalt. Sometimes one wants to be alone, to listen to one's inner self. Sometimes. But as a rule you need people around you—those you know and those

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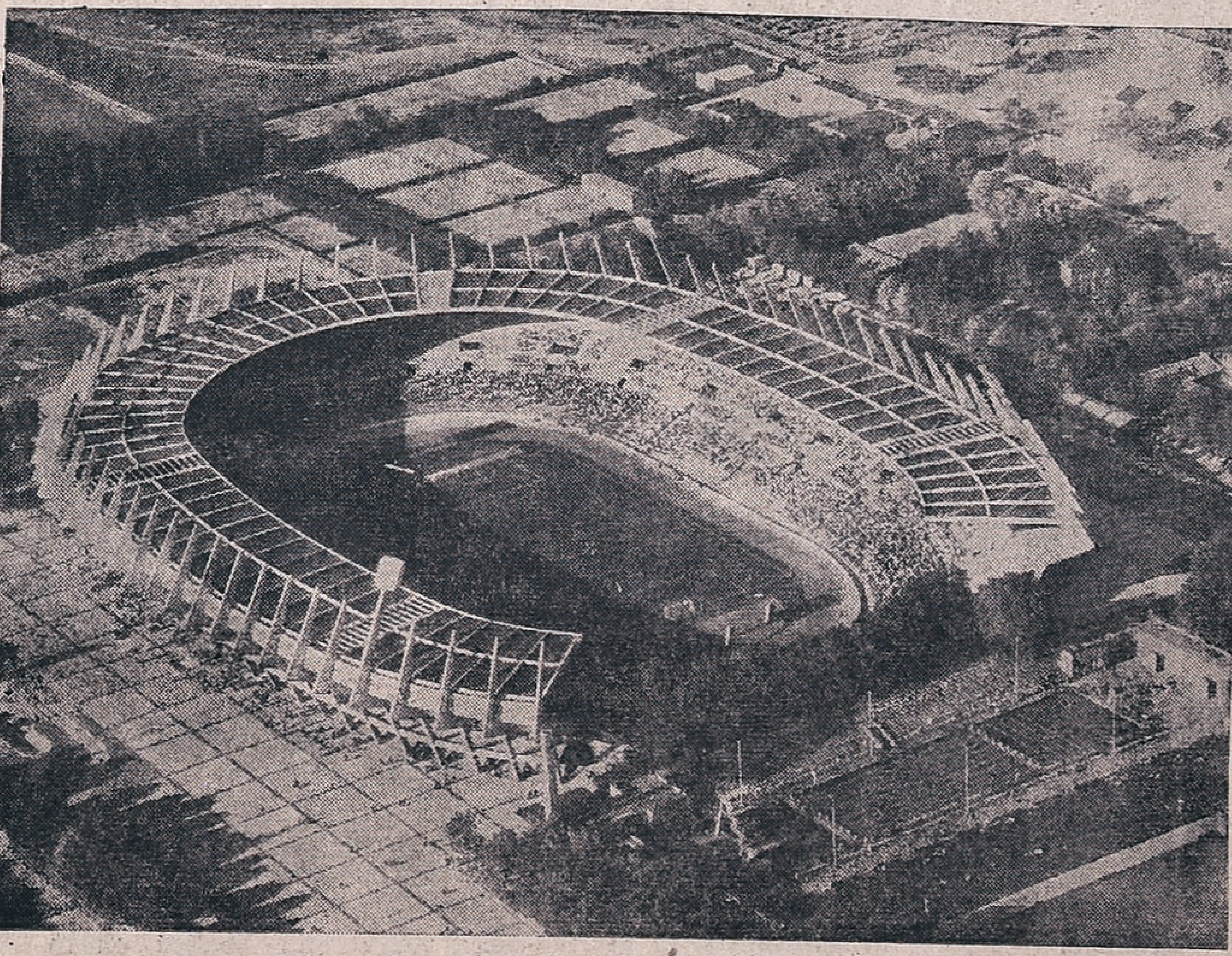


Dusseldorf: *The Dusseldorf football stadium is ready for the World Cup.* The "Rheinstadion" (photo)—it is sited next to the river was equipped with a new roof supported by 62 pillars for the meeting of the world's best socer sides in the Federal Republic of Germany in 1974. The roof is designed to protect all the spectators (capacity: 69,000) from wind and rain. The cost for redesigning and expanding the stadium—providing great comfort and an architectural delight—amounted to 48 million Marks. The recent friendly against Switzerland (5-1) provided an excellent World Cup rehearsal particularly with regard to the organisation: ten minutes after the final whistle all the spectators had left the stadium through one of the many carefully planned exits.

From page 7

you don't. The idea of knowing people is very relative, anyway. Some you really know w ll, others not so well. What if one could throw open the bord r of non-knowledge and know everything?

Gorky Street was full of light and moveme t, bright shop windows and advertisements, and people everywhere How long had these two known one another? A day? An hour? What did it matter? What mattered was that they had met. But is there anything more idiotic than all of a sudden to become unfriendly with someb dy close to you?

You can walk from Pushkin Square to Nikitsky Gates in ten minutes, even seven. But she kept on walking down Gorky Street, to the Metro.

"Auntie, can on come in by the way out?" asked a small boy in the underground train, and made a rubber poodle squeak.

"That's against the rules".

"Did you ever do it?"

"Yes. But you can get scolded for it."

The rubber poodle squealed in his little first.

"My dog'll bite them."

"Will he bite me, too?"

"No-o-o. Don't be frightened. He isn't alive...But why is ice-cream good for you?" he asked, suddenly changing the subject.

"Be ause it's made of milk, and milk's nourishing."

"No-o-o. It kills the germs, they all get frozen up and die".

The lamps in the tunnel flashed past the windows. Somebody else sat down alongside. His reflection kept appearing and disappearing in the window opposite—dark eyes under a funny cap peak.

It was time to get out. He rose, t o. And left the train.

Ice-cream was still being sold in the street.

"Where's the house you're going to?" said a deep, velvety voice right by her ear.

"This is my house I'm here already."

"Then we're neighbours. Where are you comiag from, so late?"

"A celebration. I defended my thesis today. Taken the step, as they say."

"Congratulations. And a banquet, of course?"

"Yes, in the Blue Bird. New friends and old"

"To my mind it isn't new friends you need now, but just one person..."

"Good night!" she laughed, looked narrow-eyed at the street lamp, thrust her hands into her pockets and ran along the road in the opposite direction to the traffic, to say to the first taxi, "Take me to Nikitsky Gates."

...Tick-tock. Tick to k. The cuckoo poked its head out, inquisitive eyes sparkling, and listened.

"Where did you find such roses?"

"Computerized."

"But you didn't know I was coming."

"Didn't know? I simply calcu ated you, I'm the computer, you know." Only his eyes laughed, with love in them. "Well, let's drink to you."

"And to you. To us. To always."

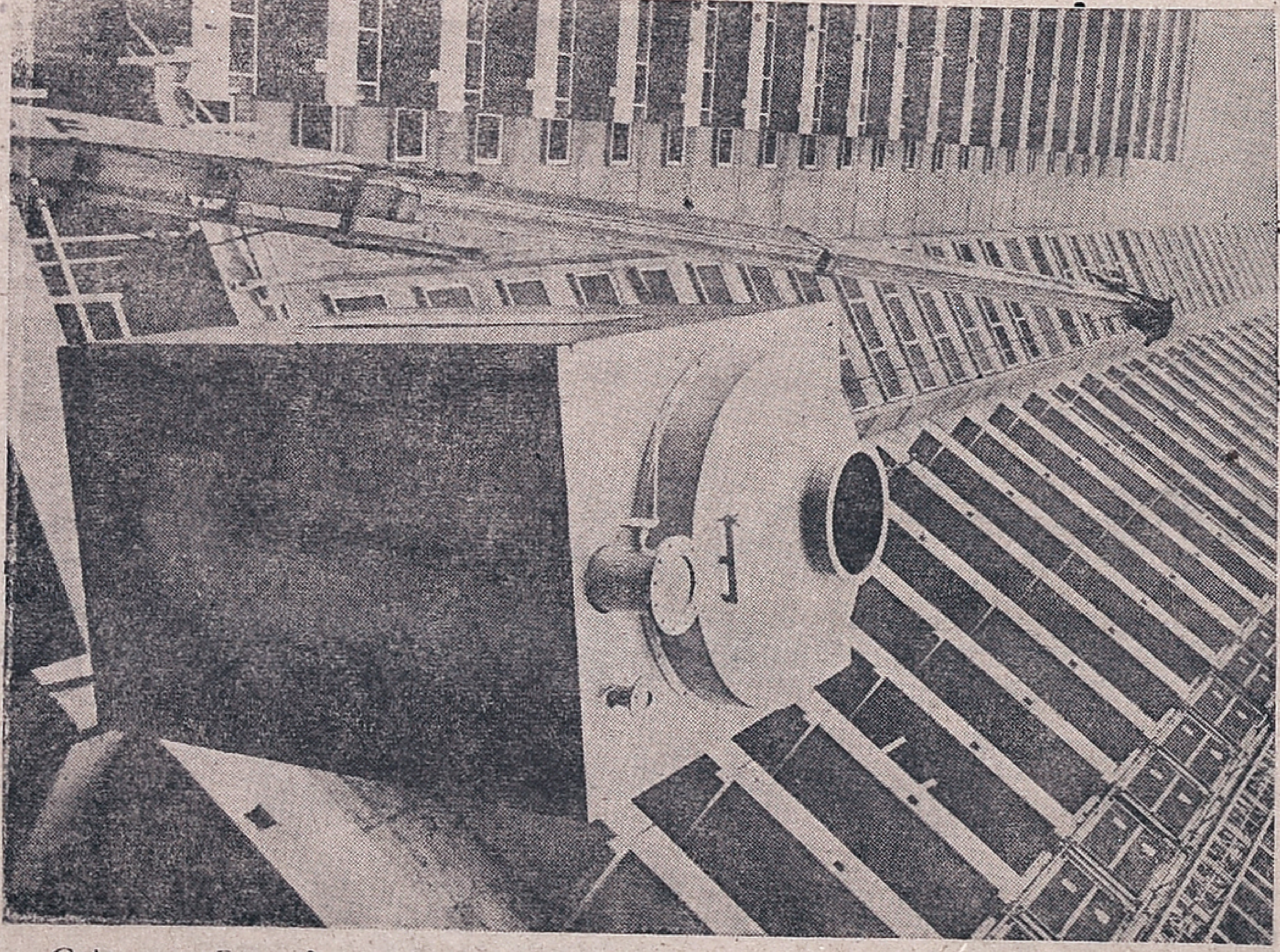
The bird jumped out, a blue shadow, and cuckooed about part ngs which either extinguish love or make it blaze up, like a flame in the wind. It gave a warning: "Careful please, with trifles; serious, irreparable trouble sometimes begins with trifles". Then it cuckooed again—gaily, just for the echo from the woods the small boy came back to her mind, and the dark eyes under th comical peak. Somebody's face looked out and was lost. Time drew together. Tick-tock...Tick t ck...

...Mustn't forget to wind the clock.

—

The Uniform Strike

The information hostesses at the Orly international airport recently in defence of Paris's reputation as the world's fashion centre. In mid-December they declared a "uniform strike." The uniform they were wearing, the hostesses said, was four years old, inconvenient, ugly and outmoded. "We refuse to wear it", they said, "because it gives foreigners a wrong impression of the elegance of French women". The administration, however, refused to hearken to their plea. Thereupon, the hostesses themselves discarded the red dress with gilded buttons and round hat and adopted an ensemble consisting of a tight-fitting yellow jumper and navy-blue trousers. Wh t is more, they paid for it out of their own pockets. And when even that failed to move the hard-hearted administration, they struck.



Cologne. *Europe's highest communal heating centre* was recently hoisted on to 13 -metre high central tower of the "Uni-Centre" in Cologne. The building—highest communal dwelling between Libson and Moscow—comprises 46 storeys, and from the Spring of 1973 it will provide ample living space for some 2,000 people. Life inside it will be just like a modern town—it has an underground station, a supermarket, medical centre and swimming pool. Computer-controlled lifts make it easier to go up as well as down, into the underground garages which have space for 1,000 cars. It's not pure chance that this 100 million DM project has the name "Uni-Centre": for one thing, it's situated in the heart of the university quarter of this Rhineland cathedral city, and for another, one of its wings contains 378 apartments for students.

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juraho, is in quality, rated lower than that of Konark.

It is not possible to give here even a bare list of the dozen or more explanations and interpretations regarding the existence of the erotic el ment on temple walls. On this theme volumes are needed and have been written. Suffice it to say, therefore, that these explanations and interpretations range, on the one hand, between the plain indictment that they refle t the lax morals of the dissolute, depraved are in which these temples were built-an age which revelled in delights of the sex, so that, as some people think, the entire *Kamashastra* is sculptured there -and, on the other, represent highly compiex and extremely subtle Tantric p ilosophies like these of *Mahasukha* and *Mobanirvana*, the Great Delight and the Great Release, respectively.

Before I cl se, let me add a word or two about what has been done in respect of restoration and preservation of the monuments and the facil ties provided to the tourists during last twenty-five years.

At Khajuraho, an extensive programme of conservation involving complex technical processes and chemical treatment has been carried out. This has given a new look and a new lea e of life to several important temples like the Kandariya, the Duladeo, the Lakshmana, the Vishwanathan, Jagadambi, and the Chitragupta temples.

Age l ng neglect of the Sun Temple at Konark required far greater effort in respect of its preservation than what has been done at Khajuraho. Measures of protection like blocking up the entrances of the *Jagamohana* taken by the British had proved injurious to the structure. To preserve the *Jagamohana* properly sand and stone have been partially removed and cross-ventilation has been provided.

Facilities provided for tourists are as follows:

I. ACCOMMODATION:

Khajpraho:

(1) Tourist Bungalow Class I.
(2) Tourist Bungalow Class II
(3) Western Style, Chandela Hotel.
(4) ITDC Motel having 48 double rooms (20 air-conditioned)

Konark

(1) Tourist Bungalow, Class I
(2) Tour st Bungalow, Class II

II. TRANSPORT:

Khajuraho:

In addition to time-consuming rail and-road travel links, a daily Boeing 737 service connects Khajuraho to Delhi, Agra and Varanasi.

Konark:

Orissa's capital Bhubaneshwar is the airport, and both Bhubaneswar and Puri are rail-heads, for Konark. Buses and taxis are available.

World Of Movies & Music

Felicitation Function With Candle Lights:

THE Madras social and cultural club premises reverberated with voices highly felicitating Sri Sri, the poet-revolutionist of Andhra on his bagging an award of Kendra Sahitya Academy.

The felicitation meeting took place on January 11th, at 6.30 P.M., under the presidentship of Devulapalli Krishna Shastry, when the convenor Palagummi Padma Raju, read out the President's speech written in eloquent emotion, regretting his inability to speak on the happy occasion, as he was rendered speechless, a few years ago.

Vidwan Viswam, Arudra and Dr. Challa Radha Krishna Sharma paid glorious tributes to Sri Sri's talents, acumen, rich imagination and above all, humanity, which enriched his literary creations as well as his humane relations with his reader friends and admirers.

Dispite electricity-failure, which interrupted the proceedings twice, the meeting was conducted smoothly, with the help of candle-lights, during the dark intervals.

Sri Sri heartily thanked the gathering, adding that he received several letters both for and against his acceptance of the award. He humoured, poets especially Indian specimens, generally are not able to refuse cash prizes, in spite of their recognised signal life-long services, rendered selflessly by them to Art and literature.

Auditor-Poet V. G. K. Chari. sang in prose a lyric on Sri Sri Sri written by P. B. Sreenivos, and announced that he rendered play-back for the play-back singer. Palagummi Padma Raju proposed a vote of thanks, after showering encomia on the hero of the meeting, Sri Sri...

Thousand-Novel Novelist "KOVVALI":-

No doubt, it is a super-human feat to have written one thousand Novels, within the short span of human life. But this feat has been performed by a humble novelist, KOVVALI, the house-hold Saptha Akshari Manthra, chanted by men and women of all ages, three-decades ago, with contempt by some and love and appreciation by many.

The credit of having had injected the reading spirit and habit in the group of reading-haters too, accrued to the selfless literary service rendered by the dauntless writer KOVVALI.

Some publishers of his books and well-wishers have joined hands recently to celebrate his Shashthi Poorthi, on the 15th of January, at Sri Venkateswara Kalyana Mandap. T. Nagar, under the presidentship of Honourable Chief Justice K. Veeraswami who conferred the title "Sahitya Sarva Bhowma" on Kovvali, as suggested by Suryakantham, the famous humourartiste. He with a pinch of humour remarked, it wouldn't be improper in view of the hot cricket season, if he complimented Kovvali, as a thousand-novel-novelist, not out. V. Nagayya, released the Souvenir, blessing Kovvali to live for full hundred years.

Blessings and messages were received from several political and literary entities, hailing the happy occassion of the celebration. Words of praise and best wishes poured in torrents. as many distinguished speakers burst into emotion. Kovvali, in is crisp speech, thanked the celebrators, adding that he felt his literary penance, at last could achieve good recognition and fine following. It is note-worthy, that he didn't fail to serve the film-industry too, with his imaginative script for about ten quite successful pictures.

It would take at least twenty minutes, just to read the thousand titles. What would be the time for the reading and writing of all the thousand novels! A unique attempt and achievement indeed!—

Srinivas & Company's "Sri Krishna Leela":-

A. P. Nagarajan picturised a duet-song on Jayalalitha and Sivakumar, who portrayed the roles of Satya Bhama and Sri Krishna, at Venus-Vijaya Combines. Besides acting, Jayalalitha gave her voice too for the song, "Mannalanda Madhavane", which depicted Bhama's dream with lord Krishna.

Bedecked in glittering jewels, she enacted another scene with the blue-skinned Krishna Sivakumar who fondled her with his gift of the divine Parijatha-tree, erected on another floor of the same studio. Shivaji Ganeshan appears as Balarama in this film, which stars S. Varalaxmi, Nagesh, Sri Vidya, T. R. Mahalingam, and many others. The Sweet music of this colour film on the celestial flutist, is scored by S. V. Venkatraman with special accent on classical music.—

Bold Balayya:-

M. Balayya, the Engineer-Hero-Producer, is producing, in Telugu "Neramu Siksha" under his "Amrutha films" banner. He is boldly experimenting certain novelties in this film. He has given off-the-branded-track roles to Kantha Rao and Satya narayana. He has entrusted the direction of photography to yoganand and Ramachandrayya, the hither to assistants.

He has three songs already recorded, written, by Dasarathi, C. Narayana Reddi and Kosa Raju, and he intends to get the remaining four songs written by four different lyricists. S. Rajeswara Rao is providing fine musical score. Starring Krishna, Bharathi Kantha Rao, Satyanarayana, Krishnakumari and Pandari Bai with others, the film is already completed three-fourths.

Director Viswanath has picturised a scene with Bharathi, who was talking with Krishna's photo, viewing it with expressive and eloquent looks and meaningful smiles. The shooting took place in Golden Studios. Pandari Bai enacted a scene with Bharathi earlier. Producer Balayya has a good role too, in the picture.

Muthuraman Fared Well In Exams:-

Enquired by his father, played by Major Sundararajan, as to how he wrote his exams, Muthuraman gave a happy reply that he fared very well. Sukumari, the mother singing the usual pallavi, that he was reduced very much, asked him to get ready for a sumptuous meal, at her own hands, after many days. This sequence was shot interestingly by the producer-Director K. Krishnamurthy for Sri Chitra Mahal's "Shanmaga Priya", in Tamil on the sets of Sarada Studio. Later, Muthuraman encountered Suruli Rajan, who was dressed in glittering Jubba, asking him not to vociferate and immediately Suruli re-iterated his lines "Nanum Periya Ivan" in a husky tone. Jayanthi was being made up for the following shot.

"Shanmuga Priya" the film, titled after the most popular classical Raga, has music by the well-known Kerala-twin music directors Jaya-Vijaya, the performing disciples of Vidwan Chembai. Chittibabu is in charge of photography.

Rajesh Khanna's son's Birthday:-

Rajesh Khanna was singing with Kishore Kumar's voice "Jagmag Jagmag Subho Sham ho", surrounded by quite a number of gay children, for the birthday party of his son, on the sets of Venus-Vijaya Studios, for Olympic Pictures' Hindi offering "Hum Shakal". The song, composed by the young music-meastro, Pancham, I mean R. D. Burman, is going to be a sizzling hit. Tanuja and Mousami Chatterjee are in the female lead opposite Rajesh Khanna and Rajesh Khanna, who has a dual-role.

Jambu is directing the film, after his successful hit-picture "Apna Desh" of the same unit. P. L. Rai is the director of photography.

"Doorada Betta" Unit In Bombay:-

Srinivas International's Unit is in Bombay for the recording

(Contd. on page 10)

The Cost Of Aggression

The United States has spent on the Indo-China war $135,500 million since 1965, according to an Associated Press dispatch from Washington. U. S. press commentators point to the serious damage inflicted on the country's economy by the U.S. aggression in Southeast Asia. "Time" magazine, for instance, traces the huge budget deficit and the inflation racking the country to military spending, In an effort to check inflation the government has imposed wage and price controls. Millions of Americans regard the war and inflation as twin evils, writes "U. S. News and World Report."

Press commentators believe that even after the establishment of peace in Indo-China, the Pentagon and the corporations of which Pentagon contracts mean lush profits will try to maintain military spending at a high level. Defence Secretary Laird, Associated Press reports. has predicted "an incre se in spending next year above the current 76.5-billion-dollar defence budget."

Poisoners On Trial

Two top executives of the Orm Fairtec chemical firm, director Joseph Maluga and chief chemist Helmut Schelhorn, appeared before a Bochum court on November 21 as the hearings opened in a case with few precedents in West German judicial practice. The indictment charges the firm with systematically dumping waste salts of hydrocyanic acid in quantities sufficient to poison 250,000 people. Seeping through the soil, the salts pollute the Ruhr River, which provides drinking water for the greater part of the Ruhr industrial area with a population of millions.

This pollution of the river was first discovered in Aug. 1970, but at that time the executives of the firm gave assurances that they had concluded a number of contracts for the removal of the poisonous waste. Actually they carried on as they had before.

The West German government drew up an environmental protection programme in October 1971, but it still has not been approved. Only a few ordinances relating to separate aspects of the problem have been issued.

From page 3

V.V.S. Aiyar

were an appeal to the passions of the people and not to their judgment. The article of the 6th May was not an accident but was undoubtedly the continuation of the policy which the paper was systematically pursuing of holding up the Government to ridicule. The fact that on the date of the publication, the accused was absent in Ramnad or elsewhere would not take away his responsibility for it, as forming one of the editorial boards. Moreover, the accused did not plead that the article was not sent to him for approval before publication; nor did he deny that he was in the pay of the "Desabhaktan" office in that part of the month. And unless there was legal evidence to prove that he had nothing to do with the article or the paper on the 6th May, the accused's responsibility for having given publicity to it would not cease.

Mr. V. V. S. Aiyar had nothing to say to the Court beyond the statement he had put in.

The Magistrate promised to give his judgment at 11.30 A.M. on Monday (19th September 1921).

* * *

The temper of the times could be judged by the fact that on the day the above news item appeared in "The Hindu", the main news page of the paper carried the following headlines:

More Khilafatists Arrested

Mr. Shaukat Ali and Dr. Kitchlew

OTHER ARRESTS IN PROGRESS

TRIAL, TO BE AT KARACHI

Reception of News in Country

CONGRESS LEADERS' EXHORTATION"

The news announcing the arrest of Shaukat Ali and Dr. Kitchlew also reported "pending arrest warrants against many others including 'a Hindu who calls himself a Shri Shankaracharya', presumably Dr. Kirtikoti, the Shri Shankaracharya of Kavir Pith...The alleged offence of the Shri Shankaracharya presumably lies in the fact that he, along with Messrs. Md. Hussain, Pir Ghulam Mujahid, Dr. Kitchlew and Nisar Ahmed of Cawnpore, supported the second resolution of the All-India Khilafat Conference held at Karachi which contained the following among other clauses; '(b): It also decides that it is haram for all faithful Muslims to serve or recruit others in the British Army from today.'

"It appears that the accused are to be tried at Karachi whither Mr. Shaukat Ali and Mr. Mahomed Ali have been taken... Congress leaders such as Pandit Motilal Nehru and Lala Lajpat Rai have made exhortations to the people to be strictly nonviolent and to prosecute the Congress programme vigorously."

(Next week: 9 Months S.I.)

Strange But True

Born Addicts

At least 550 babies were born "junkies" in New York in the last twelve months, according to an official announcement. They are victims of heroin and methadone, which their mothers used when pregnant. These children suffer from withdrawal symptoms like adults and die if their addiction is not treated. A special committee on child abuse said the number of these born addicts in New York could be as high as 2,000.

Stolen Art Show

A rather unusual international art exhibition has been opened at the police headquarters in Cologne, West Germany. The etchings, prints and other works of art on display—there are about 1,200 of them worth 100,000 marks—were taken from a thief who operated in different countries. The organizers of the show said that besides helping to find the owners of the objects it testifies to the thief's "artistry."

Honest Crooks

The newspaper Tagesspiegel reports from Barcelona that a group of Spanish cheese makers have got together and formed an Association of Honest Crooks. They admit that their cheese does not contain any butter but only margarine, attributing this innovation to the the shortage of butter in Spain. They have set up their Association, they explain, to expose their "dishonest" rivals who do not use even margarine. They mix paraffin and other harmful substances in their cheeses.

Slowly, But Slowly!

The Vatican has set up a special commission to review the Galileo case. The fact that the earth revolves about the sun is now undisputed, Austrian Cardinal Konig said in an interview with the Italian newspaper *Paese Sera*. In 1633 the famous Italian scholar was persecuted by the Inquisition for this theory. It took the Holy See more than 300 years to admit that Pope Urban VIII had made "mistake" and publicly to announce Galileo's "rehabilitation." The mills of the gods indeed grined slowly...

Penalty

Outside a Baptist church in Alexandria (Virginia, U.S.A.) is a sign saying: "Church parking only. Violators will be baptized."

O Tempora! O Mores!

In Conan Doyle's days Scotland Yard was famed for its conscientiousness and integrity. Suffice it to recall Inspector Lestrade. But times change. *Neue Zurcher Zeitung* reported the other day that five inspectors of the Yard's narcotics section had been suspended and charged with conspiracy to obstruct the course of justice. A warrant was issued for the arrest of another inspector, but he had fled to Australia;

Tactful Names

After the recent debate in the House of Lords on the need to replace the none-too-tactful design on the £5 note for the sake of "European harmony" readers of the London *Daily Telegraph* have written in suggesting that the British should change all names that recall past wars—such as "Trafalgar" and "Waterloo"—which "may offened our new fellow citizens of Europe." One suggestion is that they should be changed to 'names of English defeats," like "Dunkirk Street," or "Suez Square."

Sense Of Humour

Having lost his parliamentary majority in the recent general election in Canada, Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau has put up an amusing poster in his office hallway, showing a kitten hanging by its paws from a string The question is, will it fall? The answer will be given when the new Parliament meets to vote on confidence to Mr. Trudeau's government.

Beefeaterettes

It is hard to imagine London without beefeaters, the Yeomen in crimson Tudor uniform and plumed hats who guard and live in the Tower. They are called "beefeaters" because for centuries they have been daily issued a large ration of beef, which was a luxury in the 17th century. They have always been men, usually old soldiers. This tradition has at long last been broken. The British government has issued a list of jobs for which women may now apply. It includes the beefeaters. The decision came after a two-year campaign against sex discrimination. The government at first argued that the Tower had no facilities for women. But the champions of women's equality claimed that such facilities existed in the days of Henry VIII, who had his wives jailed and beheaded there.

From page 9

World of Movies

of their Kannada film "Doorada Betta" (Distant Hill) produced by Vikram Srinivasan. Music Director G. K. Venkatesh has tuned the beautiful lyric of Hunsur Krishnamurthy, in the Sawal-Jawab style of Lavani, rendered by Asha Bhonsle and P. B. Sreenivos in Bombay, at Rajkamal Studio.

The film stars Raj Kumar' Bharathi, K. S. Aswath, M. P. Sankar, Dwarakish, Balakrishna, Ramadevi and Lilavathi supported by many others. Dialogue-writer and lyricist, Chi. Vidaya Shankar plays a role also in the picture, besides singing four lines with Asha.

A comedy sequence was shot by Director Siddha Lingayya, on Balakishna and Ramadevi, recently at Chamundeeswari Studios, Bangalore. D. V. Raja Ram is incharge of photography.

Pattabhishekam In Malayalam :-

Sri Mookambika Movies "Pattabhishekam" is yet another social film, with a mythological title, which follows the latest trend of Malayalam film-titles, like Tulabharam, Lankadahamam, Swayam Varam, and Kurukshetram.

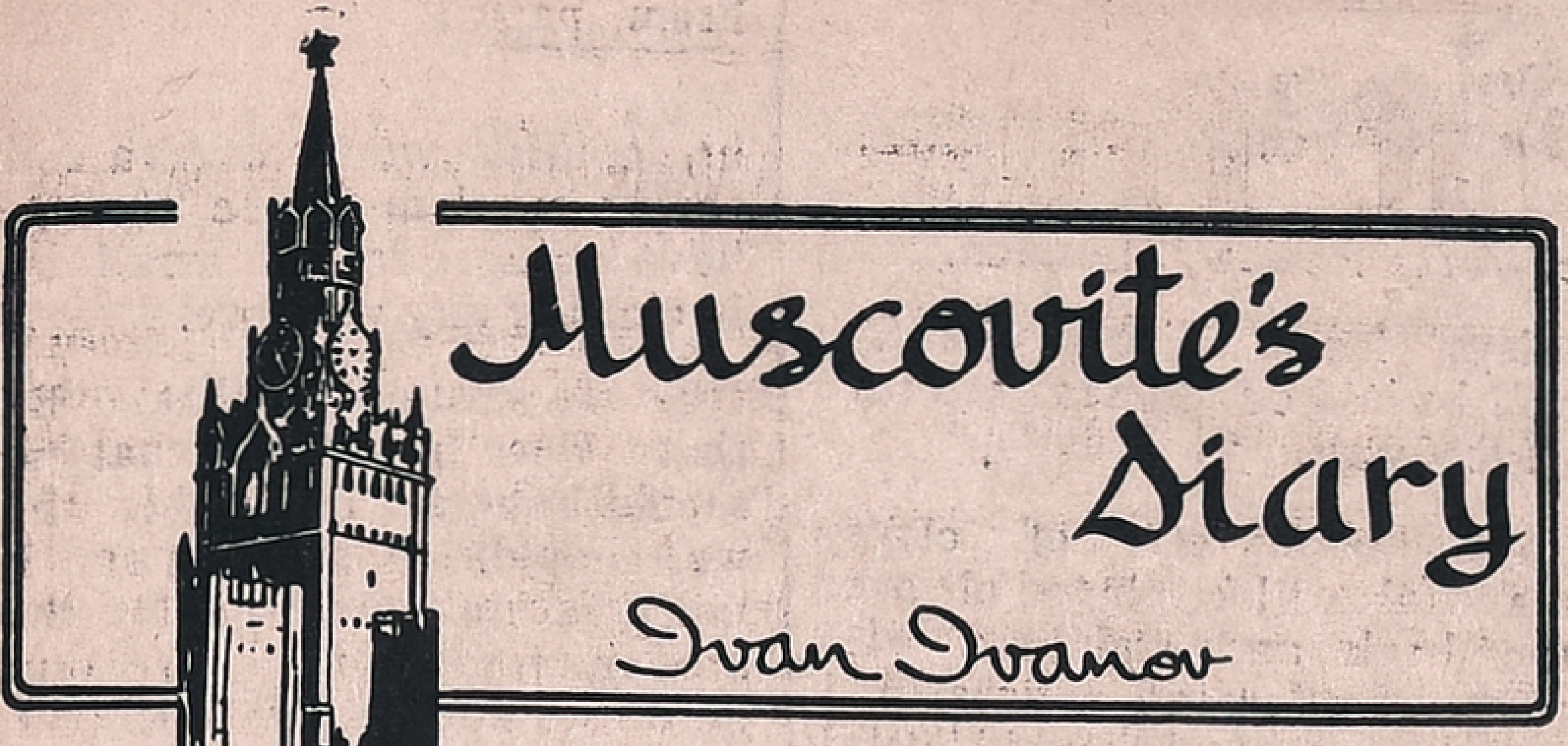
The Story is written by the producer A. Natarajan himself. Mallikharjuuna Rao directs this movie, being photographed by Vincent. Srikumaran Thampi writes the lyrics, which are tuned by R. K. Sekhar, who still works as an assistant to many music-directors of the Malayalam Screen. The film is scheduled for release in the first week of March 1973.

Tikkurissi's Versatile Genius :-

Tikkurissi Sukumaran Nair, the noted character-artiste of Kerala, is a specimen of versatile talent. Recently he appeared in the Tamil film "Tavupudalvan" produced by Muktha Films, as a North-Indian classical Musician who competed with the Hero, Shivaji Ganeshan. His lip-movement for the Hindi lyric "Sangeeth Gulon Ki Bagiya hai", written by Farhat Kaifi, the famous Urdu poet of Madras was marvellous.

Tikkurissi is now providing the screen-play, dialogues and lyrics also, in addition to directing the Malayalam Production of Murali Movies "Urvasi Bharati", which stars Prem Nazir, Jaya Bharati, Sadhana, Adoor Bhasi, Ummar, Behadoor Shobhana and Meena.

Tikkurissi is playing an important role in the film besides claiming other credits. He is introducing many new-faces, who are going to make a memorable mark, under his able and experienced direction.



ARE SOVIET CITIZENS ALLOWED TO EMIGRATE TO OTHER COUNTRIES?

I AM simply amazed at the capacity of the Western journalists to distort facts and make even simple things appear something monstrous. I was seized by such a feeling recently when I happened to read an article in a Western magazine alleging that Soviet citizens particularly the Jews, are not permitted to leave the Soviet Union and settle down in other countries. I think it will be enough if I point out some of the facts mentioned by Mr. B. T. Shumilin, Deputy Minister of Interior in a recent interview on this subject.

Mr. Shumilin made it clear even at the outset that it is not against the Soviet Law for individual Soviet citizens to leave the country permanently for personal reasons. Requests for such emigrations are considered by competent authorities in accordance with the procedure laid down by law and are, as a rule, granted.

Those who want to leave the Soviet Union for good can do so after refunding in part or in full as the case may be, the cost of the higher education they had obtained at the expense of the State. It may be recalled that it is the Soviet State that spends for the education of all its citizens. Education is not only free in the USSR, but the student is also given scholarships.

Some emigrants, in view of their financial status, are even exempted from refunding the amounts. In recent years, 530 of those who applied for permission to leave, were thus exempted.

Reimbursement of state expenses for education is not applicable to Soviet citizens leaving to settle down in socialist countries. Soviet citizens who marry citizens of developing countries are, as a rule, fully exempted from making monetary compensation.

Critics who have made it their profession to criticise the USSR, often raise the cry that citizens of Jewish nationality are not allowed to leave the country and settle down in Israel. Nothing can be farther from the truth because facts on record will show that 95.5 per cent of the Jews who had applied for permission to leave for Israel in 1972 were allowed to do so. The remaining applications are also under consideration.

One interesting feature that is completely blacked out in the Western press is, that more and more of the Soviet Jews who got permission to leave for Israel, do not avail of that permission. Thus in 1972 alone, more than 2000 people did not use the permission granted to them to leave the Soviet Union. There is also another fact that is suppressed by the Western press, that is, hundreds of former Soviet citizens of Jewish nationality who had left for Israel at different times have applied for permission to return to the USSR.

Only those restrictions applicable in all countries in conformity with the U.N. Recommendations are in force in the Soviet Union.

* * *

REALLY 'WAY OUT' CELEBRATION

Different people chose different ways of celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the founding of the Soviet Union.

Ilya Gladun, an engineering worker in Nikopol, in the Ukraine, decided to do so by making a trip on his Champion motorbike—a Ukrainian make—from his home all the way to Vladivostok.

That is as far as you can go if you don't want to end up in the Pacific!

He did the 7,000 mile journey in 98 days.

En route he saw a lot of the country, made many friends, and ended up with the conviction that this bike is a champion indeed.

* * *

MAN V MACHINE IN MUSIC

I am keeping an open mind (I hope) about a news item from Rostov-on-Don.

It seems that a mathematician named Zaripov arranged a concert at which eight short compositions, half written by humans and half by a Ural computer, were played in no particular order.

The audience, which included students from the Gnesin Music School, students at the Moscow Institute of Power and artists from the Bolshoi Theatre, were asked to give each the mark they thought it deserved, top score five.

They found considerable difficulty in telling the two types of composition apart.

One who went there convinced that machine-made music was no music at all because it had no soul ended up by giving top marks to two computer pieces and a nought to two by human composers.

Others thought the test showed that a computer could not only imitate man-made tunes but also open the way for entirely new types of composition.

Well, I suppose it shows something—but I'm not sure what!

* * *

NOT THE TSAR'S, BUT THE CHILDREN'S

The International penfriend circle at Leningrad's "Palace of Young Pioneers" now has contacts in more than 70 countries.

This big children's club really is a palace, for it occupies a former palace of the tsars, on Nevsky Prospect in the heart of the city.

The club is one of the oldest in the country: it opened in 1937.

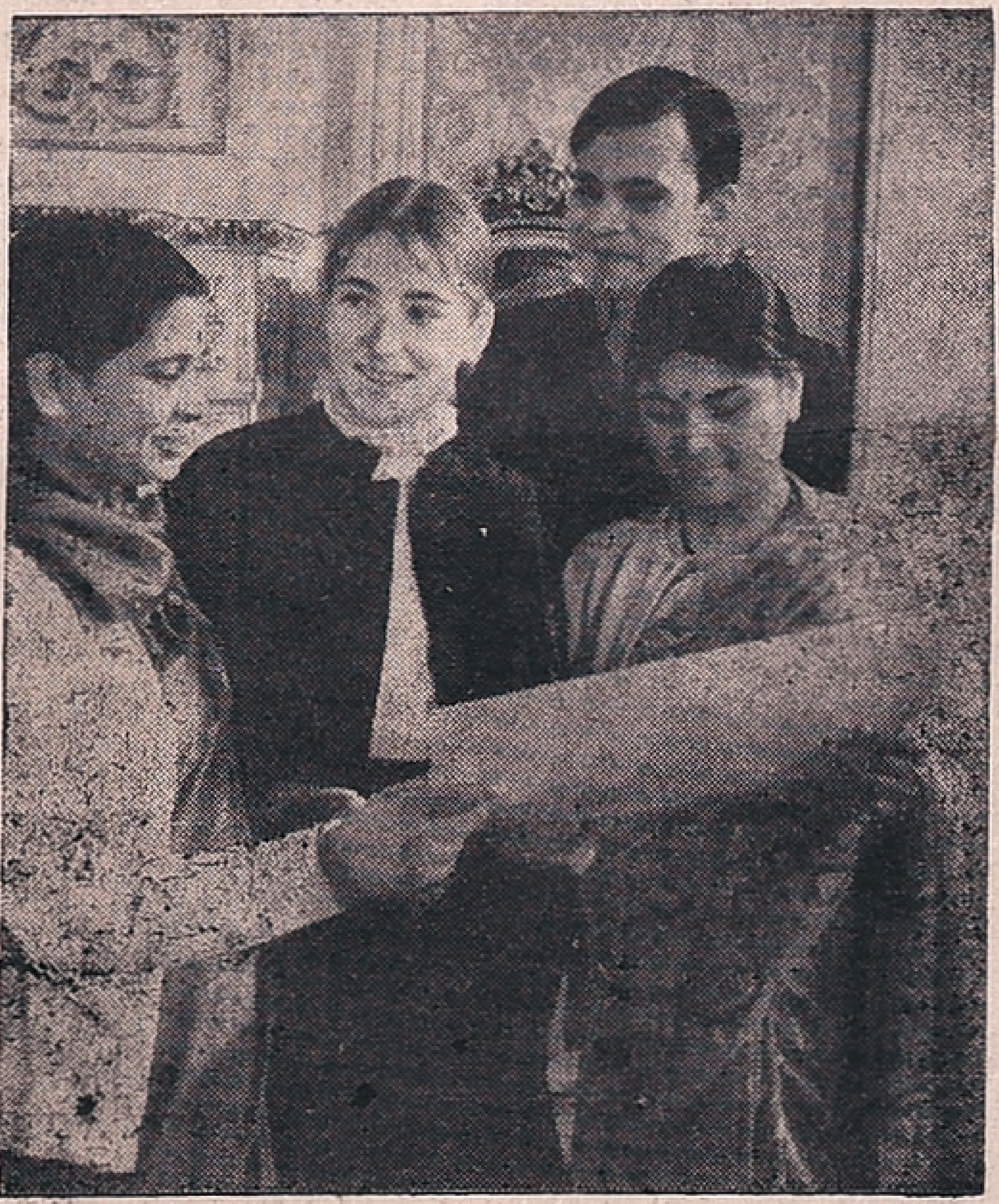
It houses some 600 "circles" with 10,000 members, and visitors total a million a year.

The Cosmonauts' Club has 200 members who study aviation space flight, astronomy and radio engineering. Soviet cosmonauts (honorary members!) are frequent visitors.

Famous sportsmen, writers, actors and composers, too, often visit the Palace.

It has a literary society and is specially proud of the theatrical company, which has now staged 30 plays.

* * x



The International Pen friend Circle at Leningrad's "Palace of Young Pioneers" now has contacts in more than 70 countries.

PUTTING ME IN MY PLACE

I was in Minsk, with a appointment pending, and my watch had stopped. I asked a passer-by the time.

"Local or Moscow?" he asked.

Taking a rise, I thought, so I said, "Delhi".

Quick as a flash came the reply, "8.50 a.m."

But he wasn't one of these calculaing wonders. It happened that we were within sight of the GPO, which has a huge clock which shows, among other things, the time in 43 of the world's main cities—Moscow, London, Delhi, New York, Tokyo, etc.

It's an all-electric affair, with revolving discs which keep time with the earth's rotation, and was made by Leonid Romansky, who works in the Post Office laboratories. It has kept perfect time for 12 years, and only once been stopped for a check-over.

Byelorussians are always good for the last word.

I bought an evening paper at a stand. "But its no good for the latest news!" the seller told me.

"You'll get that over there!" he said.

"There" was the facade of the newspaper printing office where they flash the latest news in lights.

The electronic display, 26 feet by 30 feet, is designed to look like a newspaper page.

LONG FAREWELL

I am going to make my farewell tour in Shakespeare. What shall be the play? 'Hamlet?' 'Macbeth?'

"This is your sixth farewell tour, I believe."

"Well, yes."

"I should suggest' Much Adieu About Nothing."

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Storing Water At Sea

By MARTIN FRANCIS Of The "Civil Engineering and Public Works Review," London.

An idea which could help to resolve the problem of providing major new fresh water storage capacity in south-east England is being tested in a series of working trials. The outcome could be the country's first estuarial reservoir.

A plan for constructing an estuarial reservoir in south-east England now under active consideration, could, if realised, help to solve the growing problem of fresh water supplies in the area from as early as 1981-1982.

The economic practicability of the scheme effectively hinges on the use of as much as possible of local natural fillmaterials. Consequently, the initial trials now under way are mainly concerned with deciding their suitability as construction material.

The idea is to construct several storage reservoirs just off the present shore-line of the Wash, an inlet of the North Sea—in size some 20 by 15 miles (32 by 24 km)—on the east coast of England. Most of it is under water when the tide is full, yet large stretches of mudflat are exposed at low tide. Four main rivers—the Witham, Welland, Nene and Great Ouse—drain into it and navigable channels are provided for sea-going traffic. If the project comes to fruition it will be the first estuarial reservoir system in Britain.

TRIAL BOREHOLES

A London firm, Soil Mechanics Ltd, was awarded a preliminary site-investigation contract to put down eight boreholes, in the inter-tidal zone between the Nene and Great Ouse, and carrying out two complementary Dutch cone soundings for each hole to confirm consistent and repeatable results elsewhere. (The Dutch cone sounding is basically a method of testing the resistance of some soils by pressing a "standard cone" into the ground under a known load and then measuring the penetration achieved.)

A second site-investigation contract, awarded to George Wimpey and Company Ltd in 1972, involved 38 boreholes and 242 soundings: 85% of the latter were electrical, while the remaining 15% were of the type used in the last part of the previous study. The work ended in August 1972 with a single 555-foot (170m) drillhole.

A further contract was awarded to boring contractors Foraky Ltd toward the end of 1972. Nine observation wells together with 32 holes were called for, either bored or drilled.

SUITABILITY OF FILL MATERIALS

The major feature of the investigation programme in 1972 was construction of an inshore trial embankment (by Sir Robert McAlpiue and Sons Ltd) to ascertain the suitability of local fill materials for the bank itself and for fabric covered retaining mounds.

The site selected for this embankment is about 1,650 feet (500m) offshore from the existing sea defence bank. Its natural surface is almost equally divided between sediments of clay and gravel. Designed height is 40 feet (12 m) above the foreshore, with a crest 200 feet (60m) long and 40 feet (12m) wide.

On the seaward side, the slope from the crest flattens from 25% to 10%, while on the landward side the 25% slope persists to the foreshore. The lower seaward slope will be retained by a line of asbestos cement piles which will be placed with their corrugations vertical, overlapping so as to form continuous wall. Clays from adjacent saltings will be laid on the seaward face of this wall.

The same sort of clayey material will be placed all over the bank and stabilised with grass. Settlement gauges will measure vertical and lateral movements.

During the construction of the bank it was necessary to protect its basic constituent of sand against the tides by containing it within temporary mounds. Recently, attempts have been made to use fabric bags filled with sand, or tubes and polyethylene sheeting to form the protection.

PILOT EMBANKMENT

Work on a pilot embankment, 2.5-3 miles (4-5 km) offshore, will begin in 1973. The main purpose of this exercise is to provide information that will lead to closer costing for the actual scheme, as well as showing what different problems the more exposed siting may create.

Two types of surface protection will be employed on the pilot embankment. The results will supplement those of the inshore trial embankment which broadly established the relative stability of Wash foreshore material used as constructional fill, the physical shape of the bank, what foundation problems can be expected, and whether certain previously untried fabrics can be used as sea-bed protection. Further to this, the pilot embankment will have its foundations under water. This will allow the pumping of sand under full tidal conditions to be studied.

A proper test reservoir could possibly be ready by the end of 1973. The enclosed area would be pumped free of brackish water, and only a few rinsings by the rivers flowing into it would be necessary to clear it for fresh water storage

MODEL TESTS

Concurrently with the practical on-site trials described, tests are being carried out using a hydrographic model of the area at the Hydraulics Research Station. The likely effects on sediment and tide movements, siltation and water levels will emerge from physical model tests.

The peculiarity of the Wash is that a whole series of novel or money-saving ideas is being tested under full working conditions outside the laboratory. But the end result will serve as a model for projected reclamation works elsewhere as well as the projected storage scheme.

— —

Women to avoid: Those whose "maps" show lines of lassitude and languidtude.

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From page 1

us, nothing would displease his soul so much as to see that we have indulged in any small behaviour or any violence.

So we must not do that. But that does not mean that we should be weak, but rather that we should, in strength and in unity, face all the troubles that are in front of us. We must hold together, and all our petty troubles and difficulties and conflicts must be ended in the face of this great disaster. A great disaster is a symbol to us to remember all the big things of life and forget the small things of which we have thought too much. In his death he has reminded us of the big things of life, the living truth, and if we remember that, then it will be well with India......

It was proposed by some friends that Mahatmaji's body should be embalmed for a few days to enable millions of people to pay their last homage to him. But it was his wish, repeatedly expressed, that no such thing should happen, that this should not be done, that he was entirely opposed to any enbalming of his body, and so we decided that we must follow his wishes in this matter, however much others might have wished otherwise.

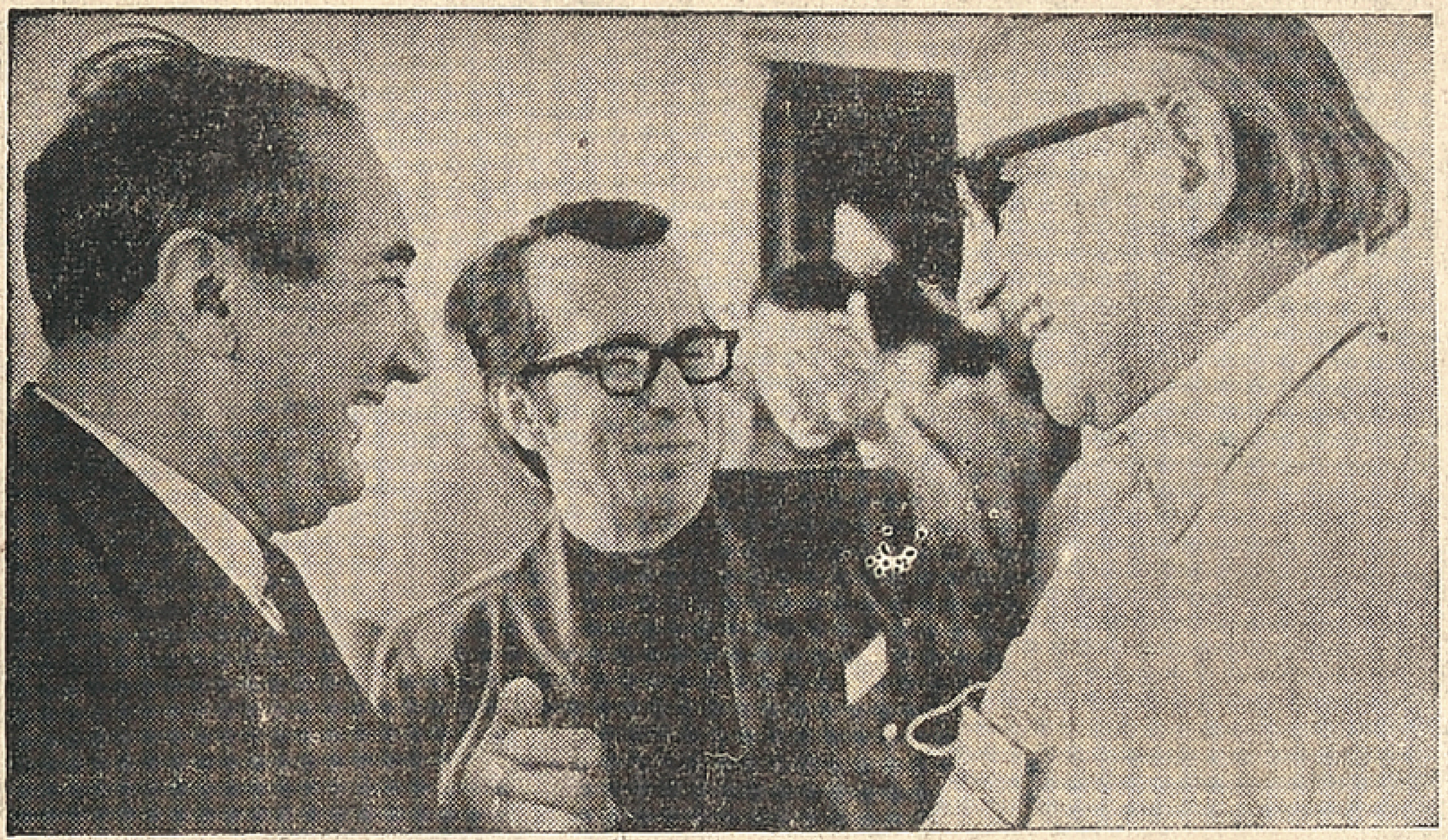
And so the cremation will take place on Saturday in Delhi city by the side of the Jumna river. On Saturday forenoon, about 11.30, the bier will be taken out at Birla House and it will follow a prescribed route and go to the Jumna river. The cremation will take place there at about 4-00 p.m. The place and route will be announced by radio and the Press.

People in Delhi who wish to pay their last homage should gather along this route. I will not advise too many of them to come to Birla House, but rather to gather on both sides of this long route from Birla House to the Jumna river. And I trust that they will remain there in silence without any demonstrations. That is the best way and the most fitting way to pay homage to this great soul. Also, Saturday should be a day of fasting and prayer for all of us.

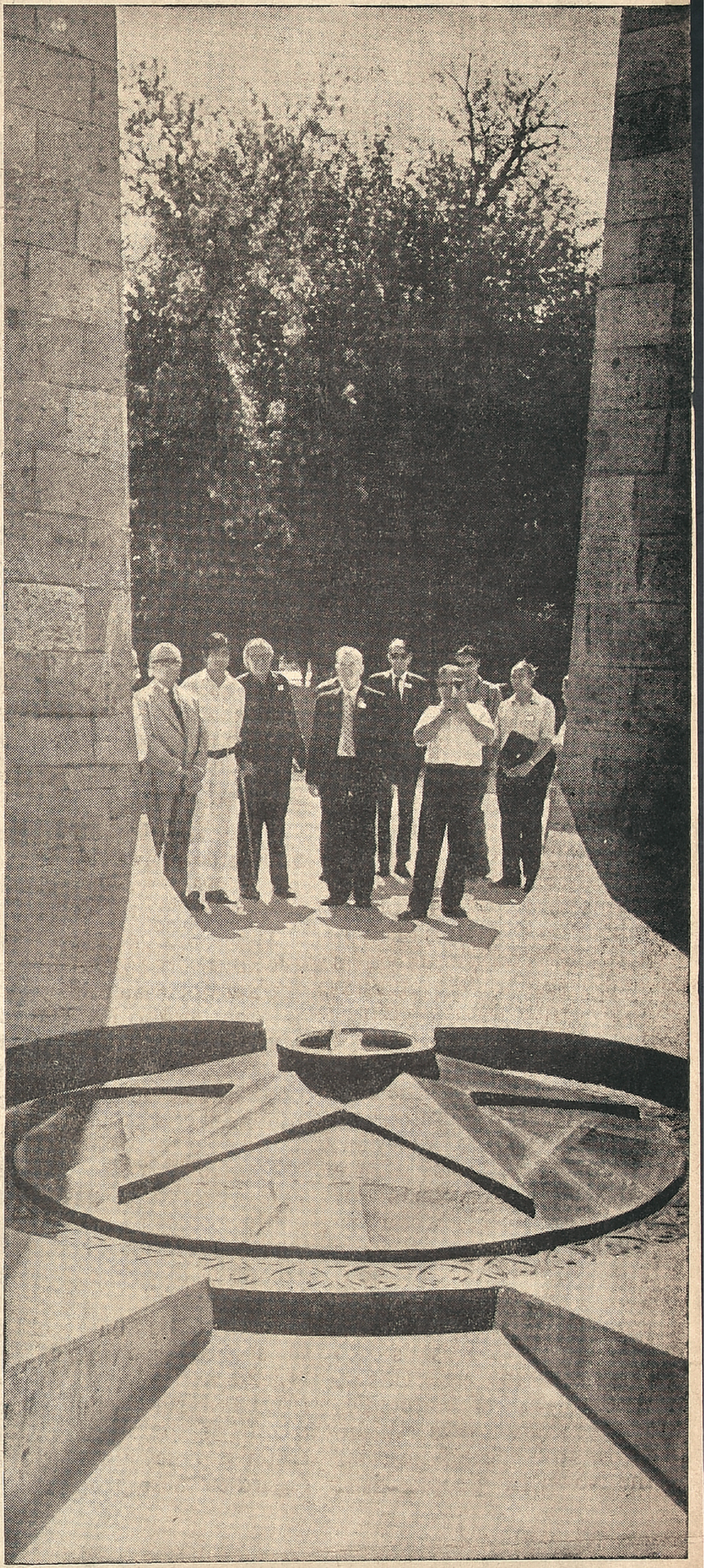
Those who live elsewhere, out of Delhi and in other parts of India, will no doubt also take such part as they can in this last homage. For them also, let this be a day of fasting and prayer. And at the appointed time for cremation, that is 4.00 p.m. on Saturday afternoon, people should go to the river or to the sea and offer prayers there. And while we pray, the greatest prayer that we can offer is to take a pledge to dedicate ourselves to the truth, and to the cause for which this great countryman of ours lived and for which he has died. That is the best prayer that we can offer him and his memory. That is the best prayer that we can offer to India and ourselves.

—JAI HIND

The Opening of The Conference



Mr. Ram Rahul (Right) Having an interesting Chat



Delegates of The Conference seeing the Eternal Flame in honour of the soldiers from Ashkhabad who perished during the Great Patriotic War against Fascism

UNESCO SPOTLIGHT OF CENTRAL ASIA

During the ten days when the UNESCO International Scientific Conference on Social and Cultural Development of the Countries of Central Asia in the 19th-20th Centuries was held in Ashkhabad, the capital of Soviet Turkmenia, a new page was opened in the studies of the lives of the peoples inhabiting this vast area. The conference focussed the attention of scientists on comprehending and analysing the present-day level of the development of the peoples of Central Asia.

The choice of Ashkhabad as the venue of the conference to study problems the region is facing today, was most appropriate, for Turkmenia constitutes a living example of what a people can achieve within a few decades.

300 scholars heard and discussed about [illegible]00 reports embracing a wide range of problems.

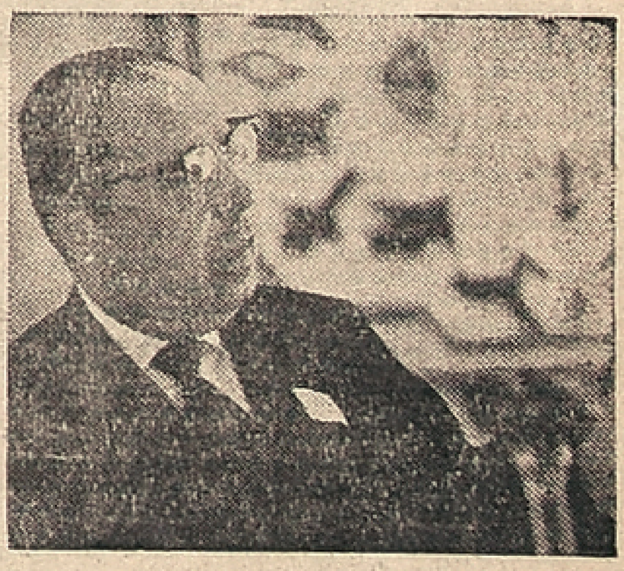
The reports delivered by Soviet Orientalists roused special interest among those present.

The experience of the Soviet republics of the East shows that the Union of the Soviet Socialist Republics in the most appropriate and perfect form of structure of a multi-national state, in which the interests of the entire society are harmoniously combained with those of each individual nation.

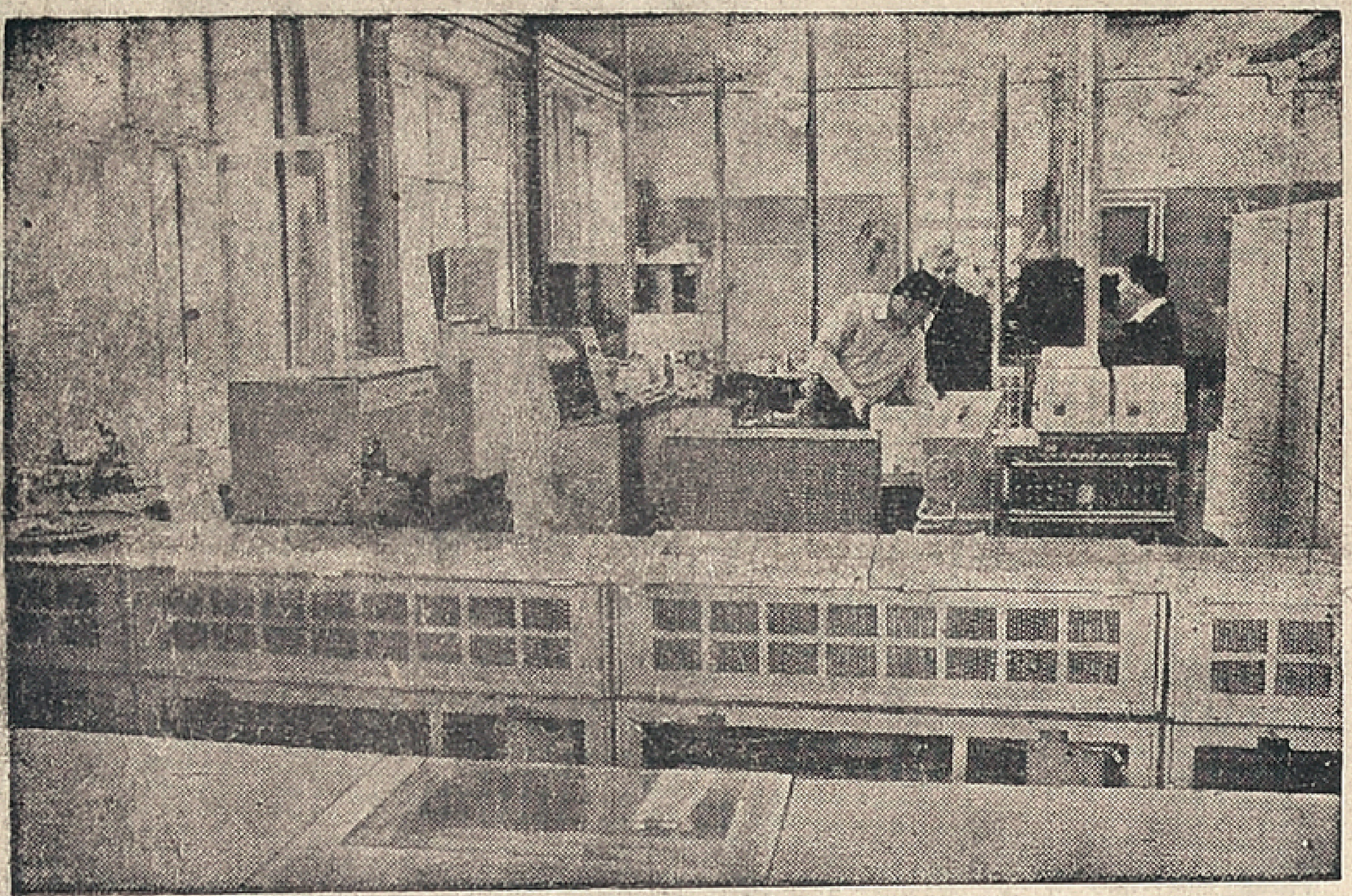
"The experience of the

(Contd. on Last Cover)

Mr. Sajjad Zahee



Academician Babajan Gafurov Speaking



Laboratory For Research of Cosmic Rays

from Second Cover

numerical strength) sprang up one after the other.

Radical changes took place in the social system and economy. National minorities went over from individual to collective economy. Rich, well-managed collective and state farms appeared in places where small groups of hunters and reindeer-breeders had been roaming for hundreds of years. Large industrial centres sprang up, like the Norilsk metallurgical combine, the diamond fields in Yakutia, and the gold mines in Magadan.

The total absence of any discrimination is the law of the life of the Soviet country That is why no attempts are made to stifle the activity of an ethnic group in search of new forms of life and labour. This is unthinkable in the USSR. And it is, undoubtedly, important to preserve the traditional occupation of the Northern peoples-fishing, reindeer-breeding, hunding. It is also important to preserve the valuable habits of work created by the long experience of living in the taiga and the tundra.

From 1926 to 1970, the population of the Nenets has almost doubled. It stands today at 29,000.

The new life of the people gave birth to a most wonderful phenomenon. The national minorities started having their own literature. It appeared about 20 years ago and has achieved prominence.

The October Revolution gave everyone extensive opportunities to partake of the world cultural treasures. Thereby, it aroused fresh interest in national culture as well. This alone shows the spiritual progress of the Northern national minorities and is an illuminating proof of the triumph of Lenin's policy adopted in regard to these peoples.

Students and lecturers of the Ashkhabad University are greeting Indian delegates

(from Third Cover)

Soviet people in the economic, social and cultural development is of a great assistance to us," said Mr. Inam Rehman, Secretary of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations. "we are happy to be able to use this experience, thanks to the extensive cooperation between the USSR and India, and to share our achievements with our soviet friends."

The success of the conference was considerably heightened by the active participation of Indian scholars like Mr. Inam Rehman, Mr. Debiprasad Chattopadhaya, Mr. Govind Chandra pande, Mr. Devendra Kaushik, Ram Rahul, Mr Sajjad Zaheer who made interesting reports, leading to a lively discussion.

Among the honoured guests of the conference was Mr. K S. Shevakankar, India's Ambassador to the USSR, who highly appreciated the contribution made by the Ashkhabad conference to the cause of mutual understanding and friendship among nations and particularly between the Soviet and Indian peoples.

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